FBIS DAILY REPORT

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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC HOSTS HUMAN RIGHTS MEETING

FL061712 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The meeting of the Human Rights Commission of the Latin American Parliament begins today. Approximately 15 Latin American nations, including Cuba, are expected to attend this international event. The Human Rights Commission of the Latin American Parliament will begin a 2-day meeting today in Santo Domingo to study the human rights situation in some of the countries in the area.

The commission meetings will start at 0800 and will be held in the meeting hall of the National Assembly. The distinguished personages invited include Nelson Carnero, president of the Latin American Parliament; Dagoberto Lainez Vodanovic, president of the Chambers of Deputies of Peru; and Luis Alvarez, president of the Bolivian Senate.

Other countries sending delegates are Venezuela, Brazil, French Antilles, Cuba, Mexico, Argentina, Ecuador, and the Dominican Republic.

The delegates of the Latin American Parliament will be received today by President Salvador Jorge Blanco in a ceremony to be held at the National Palace.

Dr Hugo [name indistinct], president of the Chamber of Deputies and vice president of the National Assembly, will give the inaugural address.

Last night, the delegates attended a reception in their honor in a hotel in Santo Domingo.

OPANAL CHIEF ON CREATING NUCLEAR-FREE ZONES

FL072152 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1805 GMT 7 Feb 84

[By Mario Luis Altuzar]

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- The Organization for the Proscription of Nuclear Arms in Latin America (OPANAL) today exhorted the nuclear powers and the underdeveloped countries to work for peace to avoid the danger of nuclear war.

Ambassador Jose Martinez Cobo of Ecuador, the current secretary general of OPANAL, said that the international situation is now very delicate because of the terrible dangers that mankind is facing because war can break out anywhere in the world.

The diplomat was referring both to the military maneuvers that the United States has announced that it will conduct with Honduras in Central America and with Japan in the Far East and to the U.S. military presence in Lebanon. He said: The best defense that a country has is to declare itself "nuclear free."

He pointed out that Argentina, Mexico, Cuba, the five nuclear powers, and weapons experts are working at the United Nations to present a final plan on the creation of nuclear-free zones throughout the world.

Martinez Cobo said that the best perspectives are found in the Balkans, where Greece and Turkey of NATO, Bulgaria and Romania of the Warsaw Pact, and Yugoslavia and Albania maintain systems independent of the political-military blocs.

The secretary general of OPANAL said that it would constitute a great success to achieve concrete advances in this matter because of the mosaic of regimes present in the area.

President Miguel de la Madrid yesterday said that Europe has the right to live in peace without the danger of being a nuclear zone. Martinez Cobo supported that idea and added: The statesmen of the entire world should act with sufficient prudence to improve the current situation.

He emphasized that OPANAL is sympathetic with the efforts being made at different forums to increase the number of nuclear-free zones because they lessen the danger of a nuclear confrontation, which would have very grave consequences.

He gave assurances that with this strategy, constantly growing military tension could be stopped and resources -- estimated in 1983 at more than $700 billion -- could be channeled to the economic and social growth of the peoples.

The diplomat spoke in favor of sustaining the dialogue between the industrialized and the underdeveloped nations and between the Western and the socialist nations, so that we all can work for the peace and security of mankind.

He said that in its 14 years, OPANAL has managed to assimilate and to transmit the knowledge of Latin Americans in promoting the creation of new nuclear-free zones. That knowledge could be specifically stated in the final report to the United Nations. He said that the report, which will be prepared between 27 February and 10 March, will be presented by 20 experts from international organizations and government representatives to this year's General Assembly.

Martinez Cobo concluded that it is estimated that the document will contain the basis from which to begin political efforts that will lead to setting up at least one more nuclear-free zone in the world.

ECONOMY MINISTER GRINSPUN RETURNS FROM U.S.

PY071826 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1002 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Feb (TELAM) -- Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun has said that despite the slight difference between the estimated January inflation rate and the real inflation rate for this month "the price policy will continue to be the same." He added that for the time being the negotiations for the refinancing of the foreign debt have not started because the proper information is being compiled.

During a meeting with journalists accredited to the Finance Ministry a few hours after his return from the United States, Grinspun said that we are studying the situation with creditor banks but we have not yet started discussions on the refinancing of the foreign debt. He said: We are still in the preliminary proceedings because we are compiling the proper information; we must first have at hand the budget for the current year, which will probably be finished by the end of this month.

He noted that in the next few days there may be important announcements regarding the issuance of international credit lines for our country. However, he declined to give any details in this regard until these credit lines are extended. He noted that these credit lines will be to promote Argentine exports to the countries issuing these credits with interest rates below that for other commercial operations.

Grinspun reasserted that economic activity will not stop under any circumstances because all the currency on hand will be used to acquire the necessary inputs. He also noted that we are not paying interest on the foreign debt but on overdue commercial debts.

Grinspun said that he had not discussed any issue in detail with IMF Delegate Eduardo Weisner who was aboard the same plane that took him to New York. Grinspun said, "I just greeted him because I sleep during flights." Answering a question, he said that he had not had time to read the recent declaration issued by the Integration and Development Movement (MID) which criticizes the economic leadership.

During a brief meeting with the press on his way out of Government House where he had met with President Raul Alfonsin, the finance minister reasserted the government's commitment to increasing real salaries, and he noted that the increase in the price of fuels will not be transferred to the prices of other products.

He added that in January the price of gas increased 30 percent but that no other products experienced a 30-percent increase; on the contrary, prices were well below this increase... although they even absorbed the increase in gas.

After noting that at the end of January, the government announced that there will be an 11-percent salary increase by February, he added that although he was not pleased with this percentage, nothing else could be done.

He warned not to be dazzled by large percentages in the increase of nominal salaries, as has happened in the last few years in our country while workers' salaries were becoming worth less and less.

After noting that we do not want to fool anyone, he added that the government has committed itself to increasing real salaries. Increasing real salaries means that the pay increase is higher than the cost of living. When the cost of living exceeds pay raises, the government will immediately enforce the proper measures to reverse the situation. He also noted that salaries will be increased monthly so that they are higher than prices.

FOREIGN FISHING BOATS SHIP UK ARMS TO FALKLANDS

PY072105 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1340 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Feb (NA) -- According to press reports quoting British sources, Spanish fishing boats are transporting weapons and military equipment to the Malvinas Islands in return for British permission to fish in the unilaterally decreed 150-mile exclusion zone around the islands.

The reports, which quote the December issue of the British magazine INTERNATIONAL FISHING NEWS, also indicate that Polish fishing boats are operating in the area, and that GDR boats will soon join them.

Carlos Maria Gonzalez Eiras, president of the Argentine Chamber of Owners of Sea Fishing Boats, has repeatedly reported the depredation of Argentine fishing resources.

Under the headline "Foreign Fleets Are Depredating the Fishing Resources of the Malvinas Islands," the newspaper AMBITO FINANCIERO today carries an article by Milciades Espoz Espoz, who specializes in fishing matters; Espoz Espoz charges that Spanish and Polish ships are sweeping the squid and Australian hake population. He points out that after 20 large fishing boats obtained a 20,000-ton squid catch, Spain discontinued buying from Argentine producers.

In addition, Espoz Espoz notes, Spain has become involved in an action that impairs our sovereignty by transporting weapons and military equipment, which are loaded at the port of Melilla, to the Malvinas Islands in return for British permission to indiscriminately seize our fishing resources.

Quoting FISHING NEWS, AMBITO FINANCIERO reports that a large Polish fleet obtained a 100,000-ton catch of squid and Australian hake in an area that was so close to the Malvinas Islands that it was possible to see the lights of Puerto Argentino.

Great Britain has undoubtedly realized that fishing by third parties can provide the economic and/or logistical support necessary to maintain a 5,000-man force in the islands. That is why, the newspaper concludes, the Shackleton Report has proposed to extend the exclusion zone from 150 to 200 miles, a measure that is under consideration at the Foreign Office in view of the international implications involved. The newspaper says that all this has darkened the prospects for the Argentine fishing industry for 1984, because, rather than decline, the activities of foreign fishing fleets will expand.

As evidence, Espoz Espoz cites confidential information from the FISCHINPEX ROSTOCK of 18 January 1984, which reports that the GDR will also send four ships, that two of them will be supertrawlers, and that it is planning to fish 5,000 tons of Illex squid, 5,000 tons of Loligo squid, and also whole squid.

Espoz Espoz remarks that the GDR is planning to sell part of its production to Japan through the Tayo and Toyomenka companies. Japan is a traditional buyer of Argentine fish products. In addition, he concludes, Poland is preparing to operate in the exclusion zone this year.

DENIAL OF FORMAL SOUTH ATLANTIC TREATY PROPOSAL

PY071620 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2305 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Feb (TELAM) -- Albino Gomez, press director of the Argentine Foreign Ministry, made it clear this afternoon that statements issued by the Brazilian Foreign Ministry do not reject a South Atlantic Defense Treaty at all, because Alfonsin has made no formal proposal on the defense of the South Atlantic. The newsmen asked the press director about reports carried by international news agencies saying that Itamaraty has rejected statements made by Alfonsin on this matter.

Gomez quoted Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas as saying that the Brazilian Foreign Ministry was unaware of this issue, as it had not been discussed in talks with Argentine officials, and that this matter was also not discussed during the two talks between Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro and his Argentine counterpart Dante Caputo, and that to Brazil all this was new.

Concerning Alfonsin's statements to the Caracas daily EL NACIONAL, Gomez said that one should not look for meanings or ideas different from those stated in that daily. "When Alfonsin talks about a Latin American Atlantic, he is referring to a geographical zone, without any connotations of pacts or alliances involving what was once viewed as a possible South Atlantic treaty," Gomez stated. Finally, Gomez ruled out any interpretation which does not conform with what Alfonsin actually said.

INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN MINISTER DANTE CAPUTO

PM071109 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 27 Jan 84 p 12

[Interview with Foreign Minister Dante Caputo by Augusto Rodriguez Jauregui in Rome on 26 January]

[Excerpt] Rome -- Question: The dispute with Chile seems on the way to resolution. The other major international problem -- that of the Malvinas Islands -- is still unresolved.

Answer: Our position in this connection is very clear: We claim sovereignty over the islands and at the same time request from Britain the initiation of negotiations on the future of the archipelago, to be conducted under UN supervision. London, however, contradicts itself: On the one hand it issues signals of detente, while on the other, it continues to strengthen its military installations on the islands, defending their possession with very tough stances, directed principally at the domestic public. Which of these attitudes should we believe?

By continuing the islands' militarization, the British are transforming this area into one of the most sensitive in the world. This is unacceptable, and the whole of Latin America (and I believe the whole of Western democracy, too) will join us in condemning the British stance.

Question: There was mention of a possible Italian mediation in the dispute during your meetings with Craxi and Andreotti.

Answer: These are unfounded rumors. The Italian Government has not offered us its mediation, and we have never sought it. During our meetings with the Italian representatives we laid the foundations for imparting a new thrust to trade between the two countries, which is at present far below its usual level. We will step up our cultural relations and President Petini's visit will also be a sign of the desire for a rapprochement between Italy and Argentina.

Question: Many people wonder whether there can be room for the nonaligned policy pursued by your government in a polarized world such as the one that we live in.

Answer: I am sure of it. As far as we are concerned, nonalignment is the right way to avoid being caught in the vice of East-West tension. Be that as it may, it must be said that we identify completely with the values of democracy, free enterprise, and freedom of the West, but Argentina is not part of the West, as a political bloc. As far as we are concerned, the West is not only the United States but also -- apart from Europe -- Latin America.

Question: What stances will these positions of yours on nonalignment lead you to adopt with regard to the Central American crisis and the threats of an internationalization of the various local conflicts?

Answer: First, we have already suspended weapons sales to the regimes of the region. We are giving all our support to the Contadora Group (Panama, Venezuela, Colombia, and Mexico -- LA REPUBBLICA editor's note), with which we have asked to be associated. The diplomatic work of these four countries, despite the criticisms that have been aimed at them, has led to some degree of detente in the region. In any case Argentina will resolutely condemn any form of, or any attempted external aggression in the area, whether from the East or from Western countries.

Question: The relatives of the "desaparecidos," the victims of the military dictatorship, have harshly criticized the government for its decision to submit those responsible for the repression of Argentina's "years of lead" to military tribunals.

Answer: The choice of the military tribunals was not the government's: The Constitution demands that military personnel be tried by military tribunals. But our government has created other procedural levels to which any relatives dissatisfied with military justice can appeal. These appeals will be heard by civilian judges and will permit cases to be reopened. I am sure that we will reach the truth and the justice that everyone wants.

DEFENSE MINISTER ANNOUNCES ARMY APPOINTMENTS

PY072145 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2255 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Feb (TELAM) -- President Alfonsin today appointed Brigadier General Mario Jaime Sanchez as chief of operations and intelligence of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Moreover, Defense Minister Raul Borras disclosed other appointments in the Army which include high-ranking posts at the staff and command level.

Colonel Simon Nicolas Arguello has been appointed director of the General Under Secretariat of the General Army Staff.

Secretary of the General Staff will be Colonel Manuel Victor Garcia.

Assistant secretary of the General Staff will be Colonel Roberto Jesus Gonzalez.

Deputy chief II (Intelligence) will be Colonel Jose Osvaldo Riveiro.

Deputy chief II (Operations) will be Colonel Roberto Atilio Bocalandro.

Deputy chief V (Finance) will be Colonel Osvaldo Marcelo Necchi.

Director of the automatic data computer system will be Colonel Oscar Roberto Ibero.

Deputy director of projects will be Colonel Jorge Alberto Narincola.

Assistant general will be Colonel Juan Carlos Jauregui.

Colonel Horacio Milciades Verdaguer will be Transportation Department chief.

Colonel Bernardino Oscar Pucheta will be chief of staff of the I Corps Command.

Lieutenant General Juan Carlos Sanchez will be the II Corps commander; Colonel Justo Jacobo Rojas Alcorta will be chief of staff of the II Corps.

Colonel Horacio Oscar Lullo will be III Corps chief of staff.

Colonel Arturo Martin Suarez will be IV Corps chief of staff.

General Julio Argentino Roca will be V Corps commander, and Colonel Jorge Enrique Mansueto Swndsen will be V Corps chief of staff.

Colonel Rodolfo Jorge Rodriquez will be the chief of staff of the Army Instruction Department.

Colonel Juan Messina will be deputy commander and chief of staff of the 1st Armored Cavalry.

Colonel Raul Amilcar Oreglia will be deputy commander and chief of staff of the 2nd Armored Cavalry.

Colonel Ernesto Jorge Ramirez has been appointed to the 4th Airborne Infantry Brigade.

Colonel Ricardo Jorge Cortina Aravena has been appointed deputy commander and chief of staff of the 5th Infantry Brigade.

Colonel Carlos Rito Burgoa has been appointed commander of the 6th Mountain Infantry Brigade, and Colonel Rolando Andres Rodriguez Argumedo has been appointed deputy commander and chief of staff of the 6th Mountain Infantry Brigade.

Colonel Horacio Claudio de Stefano has been appointed commander of the 7th Infantry Brigade while Colonel Jorge Raul Crespi has been appointed deputy commander and chief of staff.

Lieutenant General Nicolas Lavalle has been appointed commander of the 10th Mechanized Infantry Brigade, and Colonel Ruben Victor Visuara deputy commander and chief of staff.

Colonel Raul Alfredo Danniaux has been appointed commander of the 9th Infantry Brigade, and Colonel Oscar Osvaldo Garay has been appointed deputy commander and chief of staff.

Colonel Humberto Esteban Pompillo Ferruci has been appointed deputy commander of the 21th Infantry Brigade and chief of staff.

Colonel Francisco Obdulio Dalessandri has been appointed commander of Veterinarian and Remount Corps.

Colonel Ineldo Angel Occello has been appointed commander of the Arsenal Command.

Colonel Carlos Hipolito Assumma has been appointed chief of the Command Group [Plana Mayor].

Colonel Jose Guillermo Varona has been appointed commander of the Health Corps, and Colonel (Physician) Jose Rafael Mur has been appointed chief of the Command Group [jefe de Plana Mayor].

Colonels Juan Carlos Moreno and Adolfo Pietronave have been appointed director and deputy director respectively of the Lieutenant General Luis Maria Campos Superior School of War.

Colonel Gustavo Luis Nestor De Bianchetti has been appointed director of the Major General Manuel Nicolas Savio Superior Technical School.

Colonels Jorge Alberto Bavastro and Victor Cristobal Varona will serve as director and deputy director respectively of the Geographic Military Institute.

Colonels Juan Carlos Etchepare and Juan Carlos Gualco will serve as director and deputy director respectively of the Military School of the Nation.

Colonels Joaquin Carnejo Aleman and Jorge Horacio Amaya will be inspector and chief of staff respectively of the Cavalry Inspectorate.

Colonels Jose Segundo Dante Caridi and Waldo Carmen Roland will serve as inspector and chief of staff respectively of the Artillery Inspectorate.

Colonels Elbio Encarnacion Ojeda and Carlos Alberto Gerardo Morrone will serve as inspector and chief of staff respectively of the Communications Inspectorate.

Quartermaster Colonel Oscar Osvaldo Pascuzzo will be deputy director of the General Accounting Department of the Army.

DEFENSE MINISTER DENIES GOVERNMENT ANTIMILITARY

PY071925 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1650 GMT 5 Feb 84

[For NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS by Carlos Fernandez; quotation marks as received]

[Excerpts] Defense Minister Raul Borras' visit to the country's southern military units was -- and this has been acknowledged by the minister himself -- the most important step that the government has taken to clearly define "the framework of the relations between the political power and the Armed Forces." And the conclusion is, obviously, that "not everything is rosy in that relationship." This conclusion emerges from approximately 4 hours of conversation, in 2 meetings, that Borras had with Army, Navy, and Air Force officers.

Mr Minister, why are we being attacked? This question was asked by one of the persons who participated in the meetings and he was referring to what they consider an escalation of "antimilitarism in the country." The person who asked the question had fought in Tucuman, and he said that "he had done so in order to defend democracy."

On that occasion Borras denied that the government was practicing antimilitarism, indicating that he cannot be made responsible for what is being published by part of the media -- this was another question that was posed by the officers -- and he indicated that although the Armed Forces had fought to save democracy they had also attacked democracy afterward, making an obvious reference to the process.

During the meetings, the minister mainly listened to the concern of some sectors of the Armed Forces about a hypothetical return of subversion. The answer: "This was a political chaos. Subversion -- he presumably said -- will not return; the conditions for its return will never occur again. A democratic government is now in existence, there is order, firmness; the people are a part of that democracy, and we are working to improve the social and economic situation."

But the official statements went even further when he indicated that if any type of subversive action did emerge, the Armed Forces would not be included in the repression, which will be carried out by the special force that is to be created.

The question that was frequently asked by the officers was directly related to the scope of the investigations into the antisubversive fight. "Many of us placed our lives on the line, and we now feel that we are being persecuted," an officer said.

Borras was very precise in his answer. In the first place, he stated that the person who did things honestly while carrying out his duty is not being persecuted; what is happening is that those who were responsible for a methodology that led to a large number of excesses and those who carried them out are now being judged.

And he added that the government's impartiality can be found in the fact that military courts have been retained and in the reforms that are being written into the Military Code of Justice, which states that appeals to civilian courts can only be made when they deal with subversion.

The leaks indicate that the minister presumably outlined the problems that the Code of Justice is facing and that it has not yet been implemented due to the delaying tactics of the Justicialist Party.

The government officials who are responsible for the relationship with the Armed Forces understand that the balance of these meetings has been "highly positive." But they do not deny that this conclusion also takes into account the concern regarding "the degree of anguish that they noted in some levels of the Armed Forces."

On his part, Borras was clear. "I went to explain frankly and clearly; I set out the government's position so that no one can have any doubts." Frankness and crudeness. Two concepts that military circles also used to define the atmosphere of the talks. The results will emerge as time goes by.

FURTHER ON ARCE GOMEZ, GARCIA MEZA CASES

Arce Gomez' Lawyer Comments

PY071440 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1156 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Feb (NA) -- Former Bolivian Colonel Luis Arce Gomez "is at home awaiting the decision of the court," his lawyer Francisco Retondo said today. The Argentine Government last night canceled the political asylum granted to the former Bolivian interior minister during Gen Luis Garcia Meza's administration.

Search, Extradition Continue

PY072040 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1956 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 7 Feb (TELAM) -- Court sources today report that the Federal Police are trying to arrest former Bolivian President General Luis Garcia Meza Tejada and former Bolivian Interior Minister Colonel Luis Arce Gomez, in compliance with a decision by the executive branch that canceled the temporary residence permit and the political asylum granted to the former and the latter respectively.

Meanwhile, the proceedings in the case brought against Arce Gomez following a U.S. request for extradition continued at the federal chamber today. The chamber submitted the report on the proceedings to Mario Chichizola, the acting prosecutor of the chamber.

If Garcia Meza is arrested in the next few hours, he may be expelled from Argentina. However, if Arce Gomez is arrested, he would remain in custody until a decision is made concerning the request for his extradition.

According to a report that circulated today, Arce Gomez may have traveled to Paraguay or Brazil after learning that the government had canceled his political asylum.

As far as Garcia Meza is concerned, his whereabouts have not been known for quite a while. He is also believed to have left the country.

EX-JUNTA MEMBERS PREVENTED FROM LEAVING COUNTRY

PY071446 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0248 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Mendoza, 7 Feb (TELAM) -- The daily EL DIARIO MENDOZA today reported that the members of the first three military juntas of the process of national reorganization, that is, Generals Videla, Viola, and Galtieri; Admirals Massera, Lambruschini and Franco; and [Air Force] Lieutenant General Agosti, Graffigna and Lami Dozo, as well as General Ramon Camps and other military officers, cannot leave the country through this province.

The morning daily indicated that the Mendoza Branch if the National Immigration Directorate received a telex which included a long list of military officers who participated in the process launched on 24 March 1976 who must be prevented from leaving the country.

The daily reported that even though this leak was not officially confirmed because the information is classified, it has been ascertained that the inspectors who are working at the El Plumerillo International Airport and the Las Cuevas checkpoint were duly instructed in this regard early Saturday morning.

REPORTAGE ON NAVY LT COMMANDER ASTIZ' CASE

Military Court's Decision Hit

PY032329 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 3 Feb 84 p 9

[Excerpts] (NA-DYN) -- In Santa Rosa the La Pampa government called an urgent press conference late last night to show a nation-wide telex sent by the Federal Police to all units on November 22, 1983, ordering the "immediate return for incineration" of all records pertaining to the former military regime's so-called "dirty war" against left-wing subversion.

Meanwhile in Buenos Aires the Centre for Legal and Social Studies (CELS) charged that the Armed Forces Supreme Council had ordered the case of the missing Swedish-Argentine girl Dagmar Hagelin to be closed. Former Staff of the Navy Mechanics School (ESMA), including Retired Rear-Admiral Ruben Chamorro and Lieutenant-Commander Alfredo Astiz, had been accused of involvement in the case. CELS called the Council's alleged decision a typical example of court-martial investigations of human rights cases and that military justice in such cases would only prove a "concealed amnesty."

Enjoined From Leaving Country

PY051915 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1814 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 5 Feb (TELAM) -- The Interior Ministry today enjoined Lieutenant Commander Alfredo Astiz from leaving the country. Astiz has been charged with kidnapping two French nuns in 1977 and with having captured and seriously wounding Dagmar Hagelin, a Swedish-Argentine girl.

The decision of the Interior Ministry was made known this morning at Ezeiza International Airport by the Military Aeronautics Police after Astiz canceled his reservation on Flight 102 of Argentine Airlines, which was scheduled to leave for Rome yesterday at 1700.

Interior Ministry on Injunction

PY062110 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1554 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Feb (TELAM) -- The Interior Ministry has officially reported that it has not prohibited Lieutenant Commander Alfredo Astiz from leaving the country, but that a precautionary measure was issued. The ministry explained that the measure is aimed at preventing people who have pending legal action from leaving the national territory.

The ministry also said that the measure was implemented on a request submitted by the national commission investigating missing persons. This commission submitted a list of 50 persons, including Astiz, requesting that they be prevented from leaving the country. The Defense Ministry announced almost simultaneously today that a report on the case of Lieutenant Commander Astiz will be released shortly.

Ministries Clear Up Confusion

PY071340 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2143 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Feb (TELAM) -- The Defense Ministry's timely clarification, which was expanded by the Foreign Ministry, has cleared up for the public two Navy officers' trip to Europe. The surname of one of the officers is Astiz, which is the patronymic of the controversial Navy captain [as received] who is being mentioned daily in the press.

Navy Captains Augusto Yung and Osvaldo Pedro Astiz were the persons who traveled. "They have degrees and experience in oceanography, and they were named by the Foreign Ministry to travel to Italy. In Rome they will advise the Argentine commission negotiating the southern dispute with Chile on matters pertaining to navigation, the law of the sea, and cartography."

It was then a question of a service trip that will last for 25 days and, we insist, that a mix-up on names created the confusion and the mistaken information which ended up as headlines in the newspapers and commentaries by the public. In sum, it is Navy Captain Osvaldo Pedro Astiz who will be adviser to our delegation and not Navy Captain Alfredo Astiz [rank as received].

GEN VIDELA TESTIFIES BEFORE MILITARY COURT

PY071622 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1323 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Feb (NA) -- Former President Jorge Videla is testifying now before the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces at the 1st Army Corps in connection with the accusation filed against him by the government for outrages committed in the fight against subversion.

Videla entered the Patricios Regiment barracks through the door facing Bullrich Street, accompanied by his guards, at 0845. Prior to his arrival, the members of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces had just arrived.

The former chief of the Buenos Aires Province police, General Ramon Camps, who according to military sources will testify after Videla, is being held in detention at the Patricios Regiment Barracks.

GEN BUSSI FAILS TO APPEAR IN ILLEGAL ARREST CASE

PY062130 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1414 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] San Miguel de Tucuman, 6 Feb (NA) -- General Antonio Bussi, retired, did not appear today to testify in a case in which he is charged with illegally arresting a woman. The former governor and former commander of the Fifth Infantry Brigade of this city was to appear before Federal Judge Manlio Martinez at 0800 today, but he failed to do so. The case is related to the arrest of Matilde Palmieri de Cervino in the Famailla camp. Bussi has also been summoned to testify this week as a witness in the case of the disappearance of former Peronist Senator Damian Marquez.

EDUCATION OFFICIAL FILES CHARGES AGAINST CAMPS

PY032319 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 3 Feb 84 p 7

[Text] Education Undersecretary Alfredo Bravo yesterday appeared before the Armed Forces Surpeme Council to file torture charges against former Buenos Aires Police Chief Ramon Camps. Bravo, who was first abducted on September 8, 1977, while teaching at a school for adults and was held at the disposal of the Executive Branch between November 21, 1977, and June 1978, said he will also file charges against the Executive Branch for never having reported why he was detained.

The official testified before the Council president, Air Force General Luis Maria Fages, with retired General Osiris Villegas, Camps' defense counsel, also present. Bravo said he did not submit any evidence yesterday as he had already done so at the Defence Ministry earlier, but reported that Fages questioned him carefully on how he was taken from his cells, and the ways in which he was drugged.

Camps, a retired brigadier-general, was arrested at the Campo de Mayo Army base and put on trial for his alleged human rights violations on the orders of President Raul Alfonsin. In earlier testimony to the National Commission on the Disappearance of Persons, Bravo charged that Camps had been present at four of his torture sessions.

SALTA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

PY061746 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 6 Feb 84 p 5

[Text] Salta, (NA) -- The provincial senate commission investigating human rights violations here yesterday named several military officers, one federal judge, and one former police chief in connection with the Las Palomitas massacre in 1976, when 12 political prisoners were executed. The commission issued a list holding Colonel Carlos Alberto Mulhali, Lieutenant Colonel Joaquín Cornejo Aleman, Lieutenant De la Vega, present Federal Judge Ricardo Lona and former Salta Police Security chief Joaquin Gill responsible for the mass killing 80 kilometres east from this city on July 6, 1976.

Relatives of missing people called for a court investigation to find who was responsible for ordering that 12 political prisoners be taken out of their cells at the Villa Las Roas penitentiary at about 8 pm, blindfolded and driven to Las Palomitas to be shot.

GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION SPARKS CLASH WITH UNIONS

Unified CGT Issues Note

PY040255 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0132 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Feb (TELAM) -- After a 3-hour secretariat meeting this afternoon, the unified CGT has issued a communique repudiating the government's decision to disrupt the institutional life of labor organizations with the appointment of trustees to pursue political objectives not in line with the workers' interests.

The CGT leadership headed by Saul Ubaldini met this afternoon from 1600 to 1830 [1900-2130 GMT]. Leaders Juan Jose Zanola and Miguel Diz Rey did not attend the meeting because they are in Venezuela, and Jorge Triaca was absent because of family problems.

The CGT note, which recounts the meetings that have been held with various congressional blocs to discuss the Labor Normalization Law, stressed the interest of the labor Normalization Law, stresses the interest of the labor representatives in the normalization of labor organizations so that they can effectively exercise democracy in within the labor movement.

The CGT says that for that purpose, it had concretely proposed that during the transition to finally normalized labor unions representatives to union commissions should be designated by general assemblies of each union, thus abiding by the spirit of democratization of the CGT.

Concerning the trustees imposed by the Labor Ministry, the CGT note points out that among the trustees' duties to which this CGT (?agreed) during negotiations was the supervision and control of the managerial, economic, and financial handling of unions.

The notes also points out that the government must end the intervention in the railway union, in SUPE [United Trade Union of State Petroleum Workers], in FOETRA [Federation of Telephone Workers and Employees of the Argentine Republic], and in the Paper Industry Federation, if the CGT is to endorse the mechanism for the normalization of unions.

In this regard, the CGT note remarks that this request is being made on the grounds that the intervention in no way responds to the current needs of the national pacification process. The CGT claims that the intervention has been imposed as the labor movement has declared at all levels that it is willing to normalize unions.

Finally, the CGT note repudiates that mechanism adopted by the government for the normalization of unions, because it is the same method used by military dictatorship, that is, the institutional life of unions has been interrupted by trustees who are driven by merely political objectives which have nothing to do with the interests of workers.

The note concludes by stating that the CGT will continue with the national mobilization plan, and that plenary meetings will be held in different places in Buenos Aires Province and in the interior, on scheduled dates that will be made known in due time. In these meetings, the CGT will call upon workers to direct their efforts toward reversing the socioeconomic situation, because the government is seeking to silence the workers' struggle by splitting union organizations.

Unions Remain Barricaded

PY032120 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 3 Feb 84 p 7

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN) -- Leaders of unions representing the petroleum workers, the telephone operators, and the paper workers remained barricaded in their union headquarters for the third day running yesterday, denying admission to government-appointed trustees. However they promised to relent if any judge with police backing showed up to enforce government intervention. Earlier yesterday talks between CGT leaders and Radical deputies broke down without reaching agreement, and the CGT last night called for a national plenary session on Tuesday.

Martinez, Mucci Discuss Unions

PY032000 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Vice President Victor Martinez received Labor Minister Antonio Mucci in his office at Government House this morning. They analyzed the situation in the labor movement. In this regard, it was said that the remarks concerning the designation of new government trustees are groundless, because the objective is the approval of the union reorganization law. In the meantime, only a few cases are being dealt with by emergency measures, as is proven by the fact that the number of newly designated government trustees is very small in comparison with the number of unions.

Intervention Ruled Illegal

PY051950 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 Feb 84 p 9

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN) -- Judge Jorge Fernandez Salgado yesterday froze the Labour Ministry's intervention in the petroleum workers' union SUPE, terming it "blatantly illegal." The move, which effectively prevents government-appointed trustee Francisco Gallego from taking over the union, was applauded by SUPE leaders, who had been occupying their headquarters for the last five days in defiance of the Labour Ministry. The decision also provides a precedent for similar disputes involving the paper workers' union and the telephone operators' union FOETRA who are also occupying their union headquarters. Gallego announced last night that the decision would be appealed and was able to point to the fact that 5,000 Comodoro Rivadavia petroleum workers largely ignored a two-hour strike call by SUPE since it was not related to "the social and economic needs of the workers."

The judge was the first man to be admitted into SUPE headquarters in several days when he arrived at 3:45 pm to read out his decision to cries of "the Radica dictatorship will come to an end." He condemned the replacement of union secretaries-general through the "unilateral will of one man (meaning Labour Minister Antonio Mucci)" and quoted International Labour Organization (ILO) agreements specifying that employee organizations had the right to draw up their own statutes and freely elect their representatives while the government was required to abstain from any form of intervention which infringed these rights.

In the judge's opinion, neither the executive nor the legislative nor even the judicial branch was entitled to interfere in union affairs. He blasted the Radical government for not even setting a nominal time limit on the intervention, as the previous military regime had done.

SUPE transitional committee Secretary-General Marcos Alvarez hailed the decision as showing that "justice still reigns in the country" while the paper workers spoke of a "triumph of justice." However, SUPE is still in a state of alert.

The CGT also applauded the ruling and confirmed that it would march outside Congress on February 10, the day presently slated for Lower House debate of the government's controversial union reorganization bill. In an article yesterday in the mass circulation daily CLARIN, CGT leader Saul Ubaldini stated that his grouping was not against the provisions for minority representation in the bill but against their introduction by the government.

Meanwhile 25 of FOETRA's 28 secretaries-general condemned the Labour Ministry's intervention and insisted that they were "representative" of the workers. Following a meeting with Acting President Victor Martinez, Mucci yesterday confirmed that he had no present plans for further interventions.

Mucci Labels Ruling 'Political'

PY052005 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 5 Feb 84 p 13

[Text] Mar del Plata Labour Minister Antonio Mucci yesterday maintained that Friday's decision by Judge Juan Fernandez Salgado to freeze the Labour Ministry's intervention of the problem worker's union SUPE was "totally lacking in legal foundation." However, he said that the government would respect the "final" decision of the courts in the matter if its appeal against the judge's decision was turned down.

Rejecting Friday's decision as "political," Mucci justified the intervention by saying that according to the present labour legislation, which was decreed by the previous military regime, he could have removed the "transitional committee" union leaders "at any time." He then added: "We sent in a trustee to give all sectors in the union an equal chance."

Mucci was visibly annoyed when asked to comment on CGT leader Jorge Triaca's description of him as the "Herminio Iglesias of Radicalism" (in reference to the controversial Buenos Aires Peronist leader), saying: "I'm working on a very big issue and have no time for such foolishness."

Meanwhile in Buenos Aires, Peronist and Radical deputies were already crossing swords on the government's union reorganization bill, which is up for debate in Congress this Friday. During the TV programme "La Cigarra," on Channel 11, Radical caucus Vice-President Marcelo Stubrin claimed that the "majority of the people voted for union democracy" in the last elections while Peronist Ruben Cardozo said that "nobody voted for interventions on October 30." Cardozo also accused the government of maintaining and implementing the labour legislation of the military government. He implied that many Radicals were "university graduates who speak of union matters and yet the only time they ever went to a factory was to buy spare parts for their cars."

GOVERNMENT ADOPTS SEVERE AUSTERITY MEASURES

PY061805 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1025 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Feb (DYN) -- The government has adopted severe austerity measures in keeping with its readjustment program and in order to keep the deficit within the goal set for the end of the year.

The measures will mainly affect personnel vacancies, the payment of temporary employees and over time, the purchase of furniture and equipment for public administration, and the purchase of planes and vehicles.

The decree that establishes these measures was signed last night by Vice President Victor Martinez, who is in charge of the Executive Branch, at the end of a meeting with Finance Secretary Norberto Bertaina.

The document also establishes that there will be a reduction in expenditures for publicity, rental of buildings, hiring of the services of third parties, and official missions that travel abroad.

Among the main austerity measures is a provision that all the state's organizations "can only cover 20 percent of the financed vacant posts" up to today and "50 percent of the vacant posts that occur" as of tomorrow, with the exception: "If there are really powerful reasons that justify exceptional treatment by the PEN [National Executive Branch]."

Among the exceptions in the legal document are that Foreign Service personnel, from the highest rank down to embassy counsellor and consul general, directors of educational establishments and schools that "exclusively and really impart education to the students," and professionals, researchers and scientists working for organizations that deal in scientific and technological development are not included in the measure.

Personnel that provide medical assistance, that serve as paramedics and provide sanitary support, that carry out laboratory work and the directorships and deputy directorships of units that are not ranked below departments are also excluded from the restrictions.

The decree also orders a suspension in the purchase of furniture and equipment for public administration, the purchase or renting of planes, vessels and vehicles, and expenditure for publicity that is not "strictly justified for reasons of service to the public."

Or the suspension of the contracting works and services from third parties, the document states that legal or administrative auditors, consultants or technical advisers cannot be contracted without the prior authorization of the Economy Ministry and the General Secretariat of the Presidency.

It is also stated that "trips abroad in the form of missions, on assignment, or through ascholarship, including the number of members -- as the case may be -- will be strictly limited to what is deemed necessary and every case will require the prior authorization" of the president. No trip will be authorized if their aims and objectives can be achieved by the personnel of the Foreign Service or other government representatives in the country or countries of destination.

Finally, and among other details, Decree No 447 states that "the trip to and from the destination must be made by the shortest possible route" and that the absence of the travelers from the country "will only be for the period strictly necessary to carry out the mission. The trip cannot be put forward or be extended for private reasons even though it may be without pay, an expense account, or in the nature of a vacation."

SOVIET OCEANOGRAPHIC SHIP DOCKED IN BUENOS AIRES

PY031413 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2224 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 2 Feb (NA) -- The Soviet oceanographic ship "Academico Vize," which is now docked at the Puerto Nuevo Pier, will set out tomorrow for the South Atlantic to complete the scientific mission that it began 2 months ago. At a press conference aboard the "Academico Vize," the ship's captain, Yuri Burmistrov, and Soviet Embassy First Secretary Boris Tsyganchuk explained the objectives of the mission to journalists.

Bagriantsev [not further identified] said that the "Academico Vize" is carrying out a long-term research program which was prepared by the USSR Antarctica and Arctic Scientific Research Institute to study the behavior of the Antarctic circumpolar stream. Burmistrov explained the characteristics of the ship, which has a crew of 80 sailors and 56 researchers. The "Academico Vize" displaces 6,934 tons, is 124 meters long and 17 meters wide, has a speed up to 18 knots, and is capable of navigating the polar seas as well as conducting studies of the ionosphere with geophysical rockets. The oceanographic ship is equipped with 29 laboratories and a computer.

Tsyganchuck also said that the oceanographic vessel will remain in Antarctic waters for 100 days, and then it will head for Leningrad, making stopovers at Montevideo, Dakar, and Hamburg.

'PATRIOTIC COMMAND' ATTEMPTS TO BURN CATHEDRAL

PY031512 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1942 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 2 Feb (TELAM) -- An attempt to set the main doors of the Metropolitan Cathedral on fire was made at 0300 [0600 GMT] today. Responsibility for the attempt was claimed by a self-styled Patriotic Command San Jose, according to reliable sources close to criminal court Judge Cesar Ocampo, who is conducting the investigation.

BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR 3-DAY VISIT

PY071813 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] The presidents of Bolivia and Brazil, Hernan Siles Zuazo and Joao Baptista Figueiredo, will sit down at the bilateral negotiations table at 1600 at Las Palmas residence in Santa Cruz with the intention of strengthening the friendly links that unite the two countries. The Brazilian president arrived at 1100. Approximately 60 Brazilian journalists and a similar number from throughout Bolivia are transmitting to the world all the information pertaining to the meeting and the visit, which will last for 3 days.

International press reports have highlighted the fact that the visit of President Joao Figueiredo is to reactivate Bolivian-Brazilian relations.

Protocol committees have appropriately organized the president's visit, and there will be official ceremonies during the course of President Figueiredo's 72-hour stay.

Government and departmental authorities were on hand for the ceremony when President Figueiredo received the military honors befitting his high-ranking post.

A protocol meeting will take place between the two presidents at 1600 in the Honor Room of Las Palmas residence. At 1700, the two presidents will meet at the negotiating table that was installed in Los Tajibos Hotel, where the committees and experts will be waiting for them. The Bolivian Foreign Ministry already has drawn up the agenda of the intense talks that the two chiefs of state will conduct.

LABOR MINISTER EVALUATES BUSINESS STOPPAGE

PY071853 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Excerpts] The labor minister today urged private businessmen to drop their anti-constitutional attitude for the sake of the country's development and for social and political peace. Radio Illimani has asked the minister, Horst Grebe, for a complete evaluation of the strike that has been called by Bolivia's private business sector.

The strike, which ends at 2400, has been repudiated by the population, by both individuals and organizations. The partial strike has caused a flood of documents from civilian, political, and labor organizations. These documents include motions of rejection that have been submitted in Congress. For the Labor Ministry, the situation is as follows:

[Begin Grebe recording] The Labor Ministry has tried to evaluate the results of the strike that has been called by the private sector. From the information obtained yesterday, we conclude that there have been no substantial changes during the course of today.

Some firms have worked, but many have not. In other parts of the country, the strike has had varying results. In Cochabamba, the strike is complete, but in Potosi many firms have worked behind closed doors. In Santa Cruz, some firms have worked as usual, while others have suspended their activities. [end recording]

PAYMENT OF FOREIGN DEBT INTERESTS DEFERRED

PY042200 Paris AFP in Spanish 1644 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] La Paz, 4 Feb (AFP) -- Bolivian Finance Minister Fernando Baptista Gumucio today reported in La Paz that international private banking organizations have extended until next May the deadline to pay the interests on the foreign debt which were to fall due shortly. These interests amount to $15 million, of which Bolivia will have to pay only 50 percent now.

It has been recalled that the servicing of the foreign debt that Bolivia has accumulated amounts to $800 million, which is equal to the value of all of its exports. According to experts, the debt itself, which amounts to some $4 billion and whose renegotiation is tied to prior accords with the IMF, has become practically impossible to pay under the prevailing conditions.

UNFAVORABLE REAGAN SURVEY SHOWS 'FEAR OF WAR'

PY071400 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Feb 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Reagan's Reelection"]

[Text] The survey we published yesterday on the reelection of President Ronald Reagan and its effect on the Brazilian situation proves that there is no resentment against the United States as a nation. There is no what can be called anti-Americanism, a popular feeling, which can be seen in countries that have suffered territorial losses in conflicts with that great power, countries such as Mexico and Colombia.

The majority of the polled individuals (50.1 percent) consider Reagan's reelection to be "bad" because of the fear that war may break out between the United States and the Soviet Union, with terrible consequences for our country, including economic consequences.

The economic factor predominates. The IMF, although an international organ, is identified with the White House and, therefore, with Reagan, perhaps due to the vague idea about the U.S. Government's major influence in the IMF. Therefore, the demands made by the IMF are charged to President Reagan's hard treatment of Brazil.

It is worth noting that as the income of those who were surveyed rises, the unfavorable opinion about Reagan's reelection also rises. The phenomenon can be explained by the repercussion of the economic crisis on the buying power of the middle class, and by the connection that class representatives make between the worsening of the world and Brazilian crises during Reagan's tenure.

Although limited, the picture the survey outlined helps to better understand the relationship between the two countries.

FIGUEIREDO DEPARTS FOR 3-DAY BOLIVIA VISIT

PY071623 Paris AFP in Spanish 1442 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Brasilia, 7 Feb (AFP) -- Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo left Brasilia at 1035 local time (1335 GMT) today for Santa Cruz de la Sierra for a 3-day official visit to Bolivia.

During the visit, which has been described as essentially political, Figueiredo will meet with his Bolivian counterpart Hernan Siles Zuazo. The two governments will sign no accords, but the two delegations will analyze the possibilities for cooperation in the fields of agriculture and industry.

JOINT ENTERPRISE, TRADE PURSUED WITH PRC

PY072135 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Feb 84 p 14

[Text] Brasilia -- Finance Ministry sources have reported that a Brazilian-PRC binational company in which Brazil will be represented by the Companhia Vale do Rio Doce will be created for the exploitation of an iron mine in Minas Geraistoh.

According to the sources, the creation of this company will be the main objective of the visit that Finance Minister Ernane Galveas will pay to the PRC. In principle, the minister's trip has been scheduled for 21 March.

It was reported that the interest of the PRC in the deal, which will be the first PRC investment in Brazil, stems from its desire to bring the balance of trade into equilibrium through the promotion of bilateral exchange rather than through a reduction in the sale of PRC products to Brazil. In 1983, the balance of trade registered a surplus of over $200 million in favor of the PRC.

Galveas will also try to conquer new markets for Brazilian products. Brazilian exports will have to reach $24.5 billion this year, to ensure the expected $9 billion trade surplus.

Last year, the PRC ranked eighth among Brazil's largest suppliers, accounting for 3.31 percent of Brazilian imports. Between January and October 1983, Brazilian exports to the PRC reached approximately $214 million. The PRC has thus ranked 18th among the main buyers of Brazilian products, buying 1.19 percent of Brazilian exports.

JOINT SUBMARINE CONTRACT WITH FRG OUTLINED

PY071237 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 5 Feb 84 p 21

[Excerpt] Brazil and the FRG have already agreed on the mode of payment for the construction of the first two Brazilian submarines. Basically the contract will be paid for with iron ore worth nearly $200 million. According to Navy Minister Maximiano da Fonseca, the financial document will be signed by March 1984, thus launching the program for the construction of Brazilian submarines.

The intermediary in the contract will be FERROSTAAL, one of the largest capital goods enterprises in the FRG, Minister Da Fonesca added, pointing out that the contract has already been finalized. Payment will be made on the basis of a barter contract for the construction of two conventional submarines in exchange for iron ore. One of the submarines will be built in the FRG and the other in Brazil. Technology will be increasingly transferred. The contract includes an option for constructing two more submarines in Brazil, with Brazil supplying most of the parts, including its propulsion system based on gas turbines.

Up until a month ago, the contract for financing the construction of the submarines had not been defined, although an agreement had already been concluded with BHLOM-VOSS, leader of a pool of FRG enterprises, for the construction of conventional submarines in Brazil, using the design from which the first Brazilian nuclear submarine will evolve by the early 1990's.

DIVISIONS WITHIN COMMUNIST PARTY DEEPEN

PY080205 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Feb 84 p 4

[By Rolando M. Sierra]

[Excerpt] The campaign for the immediate reestablishment of the direct ballot system for the election of the president of the republic has caused intense mobilization within Brazilian society. It has also deepened the disagreements among the different local communist groups, especially among the outlawed PCB (Brazilian Communist Party), the PC do B [Communist Party of Brazil], and the Sao Paulo PCB dissident group. As outlawed movements usually do, the two latter groups have criticized the leadership of the National Meeting of Communist Leaders, which is the official PCB representative, also known as "the big party" [partidao], on charges that it is not as much interested as it should be in the campaign launched by opposition parties and hundreds of civilian organizations.

Physician Davi Capistrano Filho, who became a dissident leader after being dismissed from the state meeting of Communist leaders 6 months ago, said that the National Meeting of Communist Leaders has endorsed the campaign merely "to save face, because its objective continues to be a deal with other political currents, regardless of the manner in which the new president of the Republic will be elected."

According to Capistrano Filho, whose statements reflect the criticism by the PC do B (officially represented by the National Commission for the Legalization of the PC do B), the objective pursued by the current leadership of the big party" is a medium-term agreement that should give more room to Communists, who are now seeking the recognition of the PCB. This negotiation with conservative groups, whic has drawn criticism, is referred to as "reconciliation" in the jargon that communists use in their polemics.

Although the parties sponsoring the campaign and the communists groups have refused to refer to the point, it has been suggested that the PCB has not been actively engaged in the campaign and, above all, in the organization of the large rally staged in Sao Paulo on 25 January. Contrary to what its opponents have suggested though, this means neither disagreement nor opposition. The direct ballot system is neither the only objective of the PCB nor the target of its work. It has also been suggested that since some sectors of the "big party" were rather skeptical about the success of the Praca da Se rally, they became fully engaged in the mobilization for the rally only when they realized that governor Franco Montoro was willing to mobilize, with the entire support of the state government, the largest possible number of people.

The PC do B rank and file, led by Joao Amazonas, played the main role in the rally, although "big party" representatives were also at Praca da Se with their red banners which, however, were fewer and less ostentatious. But both Joao Amazonas and Giocondo Dias, the leader of the two major Communist groups, the PC do B and the PCB respectively, were at the rostrum.

BOLIVIAN PATROL CAPTURES MINING TECHNICIAN

PY081207 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] A Bolivian military patrol has arrested a mining technician on Chilean soil, according to a morning newspaper published in Santiago. This information was provided by a correspondent in the city of Calama. The report indicates that Chilean mining technician (Uruel Castillo), who is the manager of a copper mine located 220 km in the interior and close to the border, has been captured by a Bolivian military patrol.

The report adds that he was transferred to La Paz and that he was presumably detained because he was found on Bolivian soil, according to what has been stated by the Bolivian military. The owner of the mine has stated in Calama that (Castillo) had gone to inspect a sulphur vein [words indistinct] in Chilean territory.

Foreign Ministry Studying Situation

PY062350 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The Chilean Foreign Ministry is studying the kidnapping of a Chilean technician by a Bolivian patrol in Calama. Foreign Minister Jamie del Valle has said that he is aware of the report, but has no details. He added that more details are needed to decide on what steps to take.

DEL VALLE CONFIRMS BOLIVIAN RAPPROCHEMENT TALKS

PY062355 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has confirmed that Chile accepted an invitation for rapprochement with Bolivia in the Colombian capital. Minister del Valle indicated that no date has yet been set for the meeting in Bogota, adding that it will not be in February. In this regard he said that February is not a good month because the foreign ministers of the South Pacific Permanent Commission are now meeting in Vina del Mar. He added that the meeting with Bolivian representatives should be held this year.

AD PRESIDENT DISCUSSES COALITION WITH MDP

PY072155 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Mario Sharpe, president of the Democratic Alliance [AD], has explained that his recent remarks are personal and that the AD has to study the issue before releasing a declaration.

[Begin Sharpe recording] In reference to the proposal made by the Democratic Popular Movement [MDP] to create a common front, we have always stood together during the protest demonstrations. But with regard to a political coalition, the AD is different than the MDP. The AD was created to support a government of transition, and the program being prepared is an alternative government program. We in the AD are not acquainted with the MDP platform. They are two different groups. We advocate a peaceful, nonviolent opposition. The MDP does not discard violence. [end recording]

The AD president went on to say that it all depends on the nature of the MDP platform. He explained that if this platform is essentially democratic, then it is possible that the political organizations that make up the AD will not exclude the MDP.

CNT CALLS PROTEST, PLANS TO ORGANIZE 'COMMANDS'

PY072132 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] The National Workers Command [CNT] today announced the beginning of a mobilization aimed at carrying out a general strike. At a press conference the CNT representatives said that the general strike will be the workers' legitimate answer to the government's indifference and lack of judgment in solving the serious social, economic, political, and ethical problems affecting the majority of Chileans.

At the press conference the CNT also called on the Chilean people to carry out a peaceful national protest on 27 March.

[Begin Seguel recording] We call on the Chilean people to carry out a peaceful national protest on 27 March to demand that the authorities answer several requests made by the workers calling for a change in the government's political and economic model, which was imposed on the people by force, and also in protest of the government's refusal to respond to the requests made in the CNT document delivered on 27 October 1983. This proves that the authorities are treating the majority of Chileans with contempt. [end recording]

The declaration, read by CNT President Rodolfo Seguel, also says: We realize that the current situation will inevitably lead to violent reactions from people who in their desperation conclude that a peaceful solution to their serious problems is no longer possible. He added:

[Begin Seguel recording] Therefore, the organized workers, realizing their responsibility before a suffering and anguished people, are again assuming the leadership in mobilizing the people in order to achieve freedom and justice and to install a democratic regime without delay. However, we understand that this task does not belong only to the union movement. We call on all the social forces, the homeless, professionals, students, peasants, businessmen, industry, transport, commerce, and all other national activities to join in the patriotic task of preventing a confrontation of the police and Armed Forces with the people, so that through unity we will be able to organize an emergency government to find a peaceful solution to the current crisis. [end recording]

The CNT also announced the creation of workers' commands at the regional and provisional levels, and that CNT representatives will tour the country to ensure success in organizing the commands. The union leaders also decided to actively participate in the ceremonies commemorating the anniversary of the death of union leader Tucapel Gimenez.

EMBASSY PERSONNEL EVACUATED FROM BEIRUT

PA071837 Paris AFP in Spanish 1812 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Bogota, 7 Feb (AFP) -- The Colombian Government today ordered the evacuation of its embassy in Beirut after confirming that the embassy was partially destroyed by Druze artillery fire on Monday.

Alberto Cardona, Colombian ambassador to Beirut, was authorized to leave Beirut and go to Cyprus, accompanied by other officials at that diplomatic delegation, including Consul Clara Lega.

Cardona said that the Colombian Consulate and Embassy in Beirut were the targets of violent attacks in the last few hours, adding: "We have taken shelter in the cellar."

The embassy evacuation was ordered via a telephone connection made by the RCN Radio network between Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda, who is in Santiago, Chile, and Beirut.

Lloreda, who is attending a meeting of the South Pacific Organization in Santiago, instructed the Foreign Ministry personnel in Bogota and Ambassador Cardona in Beirut to "leave the place immediately."

BETANCUR STATEMENT ON RELATIONS WITH VENEZUELA

PA070356 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 2 Feb 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] Today in Caracas President Betancur expressed his complete confidence that Colombia and Venezuela will arrive at an agreement, because "there are many more issues uniting us than the very few that divide us." He described relations between the two countries as excellent.

The head of state made a statement to the press upon his arrival in Caracas to attend President Jaime Lusinchi's inaugural ceremony. Betancur commented on the work that the Contadora Group has been doing and on Venezuela's role in that group, on the progress achieved in the search for peace in Central America, and on the professionalism of the Colombian Armed Forces.

On the dispute over sea and undersea areas, Betancur said: "I confidently expect an agreement that will settle this problem. I believe that divergencies are a challenge, but that there are many, so many issues that unite us and so few that divide us from Venezuela." He added: "This is not a simple rhetorical statement, because we share many common interests, a common history, and common borders."

On the work that could be done by the two countries together, such as the reforestation of hydrography basins, he said: "This is a challenge that was foreseen by the Liberator Bolivar, who issued a decree to plant trees throughout the Orinoco Basin, especially on Colombia's side, because that is where the tributaries are. The Orinoco's volume makes this an important issue to Venezuela. In addition, it has very dynamic potential for the production of wood, such as the Caribbean pine, which is produced in both countries. This could be the start of a great wood exploitation program that would make us an exporting power.

In addition, this exploitation would also have by-products such as the generation of jobs," Betancur said.

When asked whether the Contadora Group needs to be modified in some way in order to achieve its objectives, President Betancur said there is no need for any changes, because decisions are already being implemented. He added: "The difficult and arduous part was to reach the consensus that was achieved in the group's most recent meeting. All the Central American countries accepted the decisions, and we are already in the phase of application."

Betancur said that the task is not an easy one; however, it is now a matter of implementation. The head of state added: "It is basically a matter of continuing the pattern by seeking specific country-to-country agreements on their respective borders. Therefore, the effort is actually not stopping; quite the contrary, it is continuing. The record to date, as you know, shows that the task carried out by Venezuela, Mexico, and Panama, not to mention Colombia, has been very great and very profound. The mere fact that we are not greeted each day by full-page headlines in the Venezuelan papers reading "War in Central America" is a perfect example of the Contadora Group's achievements."

Constructive Presence

President Betancur specifically referred to Venezuela's "constructive presence" in the Contadora Group, and he added, regarding the new Venezuelan president:

"From the statements I have read attributed to President Lusinchi, and from the talks I have had with him, I know he is fully identified with the philosophy of Contadora, which is, according to the old customary principle of inter-American justice, to let the Central American region make its own decisions about its own destiny; to affirm the principles of self-determination, nonintervention, and the peaceful solution of conflicts in the region; to have foreign advisers, no matter where they come from, leave Central America; and of course to continue the democratic processes so that each country can have the institutions they freely wish to have."

Support of Argentina

Referring to Argentine support of the Contadora Group, he said that all support is welcome because it is all very constructive and because the group does not pretend to have all the answers.

The United States and Peace

He was asked if the United States firmly believed that peace could be achieved in Central America, and he replied that according to an old saying, "One must believe what the people say." He added: "What the Contadora Group is doing is to take the assertions made by the countries that are interested in the area, to take them in their real meaning, and to keep going." President Betancur asked for faith in Central America's future, and he added that everyone knows that what is at stake is world peace. "We want," he said, "peace to be Central America's only objective, and like mystical heralds we will continue the search for peace." Finally, President Betancur expressed his joy to be in Caracas and to be participating "in the beautiful display given by Venezuelan democracy. It is another landmark, and we who are governors of genuinely democratic origin could ask for nothing more than to be here giving testimony with our presence. To Venezuelans of all political parties, I feel that these are moments of affection and flowing emotion, because for those of us who are democrats to win or lose is only circumstantial, since even those who have been defeated are part of democracy's total victory, because they too participated in the event."

FUNDS FROM DRUG TRAFFICKING USED FOR CAMPAIGNS

PA072029 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Santa Marta -- Today, in a message to President Betancur, Senator (Hugo Escobar Sierra) said that funds from drug trafficking finance a large number of political campaigns in Magdalena Department. The conservative senator said that he is very concerned about what he described as corruption that stains democracy. The Magdalena politician also said that many people linked to drug trafficking have been economically supporting leaders.

The message said that (Escobar Sierra) could truthfully swear before the nation that a large number of political campaigns in Magdalena are financed by drug trafficking funds. He added that many political groups from Magdalena, the Atlantico Department, and Guajira are totally financed by known drug traffickers.

GOVERNMENT DENIES AGREEMENT ON ETA MEMBERS

PA061746 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 3 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] The Colombian Foreign Ministry has denied that the government has signed an agreement with Spain or any other government to allow people linked to the Basque separatist organization ETA [Basque Fatherland and Liberty Organization] to remain in Colombia either temporarily or permanently. This official declaration results from rumors which said an agreement had been signed by Spain, France, and Panama to allow ETA terrorists to remain in these countries.

PEASANT OCCUPATION, UNREST IN MIDDLE MAGDALENA

Peasants Return Home

PA040323 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 1 Feb 84 p 3-A

[By Juan Jose Hoyos]

[Text] Medellin -- The 3,500 peasants who occupied the town of Remedios 11 days ago to denounce several murders committed by paramilitary groups in the Middle Magdalena region today accepted the plan for an agreement, which was proposed by the national government, and began returning to their homes at noon today. Before they began to go home the peasants paraded through the streets of Remedios, exploding gunpowder and shouting joyfully.

During the march the peasants Miguel Jaramillo and Ricardo Leon Tamayo were arrested and accused of having been involved in an attack by FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] rebels on the Bombona Battalion's communications outpost in Cerro Grande. A criminal judge who went to Remedios to investigate the incident ordered the arrests.

The infiltration of some FARC rebels among the peasants who migrated to the rural areas of Remedios and Puerto Berrio was reported by General Farok Yanine Diaz, commander of the XIV Army Brigade, and by Gabriel Yepes, a parish priest from Remedios.

The agreement to end the siege of Remedios was reached yesterday in Bogota during a meeting between the peasant leaders and Government Minister Alfonso Gomez Gomez.

Exodus To Barrancabermeja

PA072148 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 3 Feb 84 pp 1,2

[Excerpt] The Workers Trade Union, USO, and the People's Coordination [Coordinadora Popular] are responsible for the exodus of peasants which has taken place in the past hours in Barrancabermeja, because their members have been creating unrest in various villages, corregimientos, and municipalities in the Middle Magdalena region, according to an official commission that has gone to that area of the country.

At least 650 peasant families left their homes and went to Barrancabermeja to demand more protection; however, EL SIGLO has discovered that the leftist groups have begun an agitation campaign to try and obstruct the government's peace efforts.

Presidential peace counselor Amparo Bausa explained to this newspaper that the peasants have been brainwashed by the leftist elements into demanding the withdrawal of the Army from that zone of the country, which would give the guerrillas more freedom to carry out their activities.

THREE M-19 GUERRILLAS KILLED IN CAQUETA

PA062027 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The Army command has reported that three members of the 19 April Movement, M-19, were killed in Caqueta during military actions carried out in the past few hours by Operations Command No 12.

The clash occurred in La Solita, Caqueta municipality. The dead guerrillas belonged to the group led by Roberto Artunduaga, alias Yuri. The members had used the aliases of Orlando Lasso, Olivardo, and Arango, who was presumably Olivardo's brother.

The reports also indicate that after the clash, the Armed Forces confiscated three .38 cal revolvers, 30 rounds of ammunition, and a recording which is being analyzed by Army members.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS -- The Colombian Government has appointed former ambassador and parliament member Marino Jaramillo Echeverri as the new ambassador to Bulgaria, replacing Ramses Hakim Murad, who has been appointed ambassador to the GDR. [Excerpt] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Jan 84 p 10-B PA]

COMMENTS ON DIALOGUE, CONSTITUTION, ELECTIONS

Interior Minister: Resumption Imminent

PY071822 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Interior Minister General Hugo Linares Brum has said that the resumption of the political dialogue should be imminent. Gen Linares said that General Aranco has made statements which support this idea. Gen Linares added that the Armed Forces have maintained and will maintain their decision on the need to amend the 1967 Constitution. He regarded the public statements recently made by several political leaders as very positive. Asked about the resumption of the talks between the military and the politicians, he said:

[Begin recording] [Linares] Well, I would say yes. It should be imminent, since Army Commander in Chief General Pedro Aranco made this clear and pointed out the need for the resumption of the dialogue in the speech he delivered. Therefore, I deem it imminent.

[Unidentified reporter] Will the amendment of the Constitution be subjected to discussion?

[Linares] The Army...or rather the Armed Forces, have always said that the 1967 Constitution requires some amendments, and actually they have their reasons for saying this. [end recording]

Colorado Leader: Conditions Changed

PY072240 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] At noon Dr Julio Maria Sanguinetti, secretary general of the Colorado Party, said that the topic for the dialogue should be the November elections. The conditions for the dialogue have now changed, Sanguinetti stated. He said that its main subject is the elections. Today the country will not understand why we should sit down to discuss all the various aspects of a whole new constitution, Sanguinetti added. What we have to discuss now are the real terms for a political democratic way out for the country. When asked about the statements that the interior minister made regarding the need to amend the 1967 Constitution, Sanguinetti said that in the view of the political parties the Constitution required no amendments. However, he added, it was always said that in case an amendment was necessary, as long as it did not significantly alter the Constitution, a way out could be found, and this would be most welcome. We have always said this, he stated. There are no reasons for amendments, but, of course, now we are pressed for time, Sanguinetti said. If any of the 30 constitutional points raised for discussion could be solved quickly, it would be another matter, but to start discussing a whole constitution seems to be untimely.

Military Fears Long Campaign

PY071825 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2355 GMT 6 Feb 84

[By Alberto Pepe Leira]

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 6 Feb (EFE) -- The Uruguayan military regime is trying to keep the length of the electoral campaign for the much-promised elections in November to under 3 months. In view of this, the restrictions on the activities of political parties will be extended.

This information, which was leaked by reliable sources, is currently being analyzed by the three political parties: "Blanco," "Colorado" and the "Civic Union," which are making an effort to further a rapprochement with the military in order to overcome the current deadlock of the dialogue aimed at restoring democracy in the country. The parties officially authorized to operate -- left-wing parties are still banned -- voiced their concern over the government's silence regarding the elections with less than 10 months to go before the date set for them.

Certain political observers have told EFE that bans are being maintained and negotiations are "frozen" not only because military officers and political leaders have taken radically opposite stands but also because the Armed Forces do not want a protracted electoral campaign. According to EFE's sources, the military is planning on an electoral campaign that should last no more than 3 months, because they feel that the current economic and social situation does not "allow the luxury of paralyzing the nation for a long time." Meanwhile, the politicians believe that the regime's main problem is that "it does not want to have an Argentine-style democratization involving an in-depth review of the 10 years of authoritarian rule." It would seem that the Uruguayan military officers want an "honorable way out" for which they will very soon call for private meetings with the parties but without the press in order to plan an institutionalization "without winners or losers."

EXECUTIVE BRANCH NAMES ARMY COMMANDERS TO POSTS

PY071335 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 3 Feb 84 p 5

[Excerpts] The executive branch has ordered the posting of four Army commanders. General Alfonso D. Feola has been named commander of the 2d Army Division. General Julio Cesar Bonelli is currently interim commander of that unit.

General Pedro H. Gonnet has been named chief of the Joint Staff (ESMACO). He replaces Rear Admiral Jorge Laborde. General German de la Fuente has been named military and defense attache at the Uruguayan Embassy in the United States. He will also act as the Armed Forces mission chief.

It must be noted that General Jose Maria Siqueira will continue as commander of the 4th Army Division and that General Hugo Medina will continue as commander of the 3d Army Division. He will remain in that post until next July when, by right, he will become commander in chief of the Army as the current commander in chief, Lieutenant General Pedro Aranco, will be retiring at that time.

SWEDEN'S OLOF PALME ARRIVES FOR 3-DAY VISIT

FL062154 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2040 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme today arrived in this capital on a visit aimed at further developing the already good relations between Mexico and Sweden.

During his 3-day stay in Mexico City, the Swedish leader will hold talks with President Miguel de la Madrid and Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor on the international situation and the Contadora Group's peace efforts for Central America.

At Mexico City International Airport, the prime minister was met by Secretary of Government Manuel Bartlett Diaz and Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor and their wives, who welcomed him in the name of the Mexican Government. Olof Palme and the Mexican officials reviewed the Mexican troops who were there. Later, he got into a limousine which took him to a hotel.

It was reported tha this afternoon Palme will meet with President Miguel de la Madrid at Los Pinos, the official residence. Tonight, De la Madrid will host a dinner in Palme's honor at the Foreign Secretariat.

Statements by De la Madrid, Palme

FL071733 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0500 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- At the dinner he hosted tonight for Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, President Miguel de la Madrid stated that the Contadora Group's peace initiatives have not managed to dispel the threat of war. There are still people who believe that regional security is tied to a military presence and an increase in warlike and destabilizing acts, De la Madrid said. As examples, he cited the deployment of nuclear arms on the European Continent, the suspension of the Geneva and Vienna peace talks, and the repeated threat of militarizing space.

The president reiterated Mexico's position that the Central American conflict must be separated from the East-West confrontation, pointing out that it is necessary to recognize the true social, economic, and political causes of the crisis. Only negotiations -- not the use of force -- are capable of assuring the solution to the conflict and the harmonious coexistence of the Central American nations, he stated. Miguel de la Madrid said that war, sooner or later, decreases the security of all the countries in the region. Only peace can assure development and stability. The president added that it is not possible to sustain the illusion of short-range security if the long-range and ultimate goals of the international community are endangered.

The president again called on all nations with interests in the area to avoid taking any action contrary to our goal of peace, and to cooperate, without reservations, in the negotiating process.

The president spoke with special emphasis on the friendship between Mexico and Sweden, of the obligations that both nations have assumed in the struggle for peace and disarmament, and of the affinity of the two peoples in their defense of national sovereignty. He also pointed out that the present crisis has underscored the need for a complete restructuring of the international economy, based on worldwide negotiations. Sweden, he said, can explain the Mexican position to the industrial powers.

The president also stressed the fact that Mexico will not renounce the permanent goals of its historical plan [not further identified] -- stating that austerity has not kept us from widening our democracy and liberties.

Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme stated that at a time characterized by the continuation of the arms race, the absurd logic of the balance of terror, and the interruption of the dialogue between the superpowers, Mexico and Sweden are joining forces to achieve disarmament, detente, and collective security in the struggle for peace and liberty. He added that both nations have cooperated intensely in efforts to achieve peace, a social and economic process that benefits the majority, a fair distribution of world resources, and a new international economic order.

Palme paid homage to Mexico by asserting that with its energetic and decisive action, Mexico has avoided open warfare in Central America and has set in motion a process to achieve regional peace, democracy, and social and economic development.

He emphasized his country's agreement with Mexico's position that the tragic Central American situation has its origin in the dramatic social and economic situation in the region. He stated that the day there is a change in the situation in Central America, his country will be prepared to contribute to the reconstruction and development of that part of the world in the same way that we are now doing in Nicaragua.

EDUCATION AGREEMENT WITH CUBA TO TAKE EFFECT

FL070050 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2350 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 5 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- It was disclosed here today that the agreement reached between the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) and Cuba's Higher Polytechnic Institute supporting the expansion of interuniversity cooperation in the field of basic research, will go into effect 6 February.

Sergio Figueroa, director of the Engineering and Basic Sciences Division at UNAM, stated that the agreement entails two mathematicians staying at the university for 4 months to work on a book on computational methodology in structural engineering. He added that the other part of the agreement stipulated that UNAM would send three Mexican mathematicians to City of Havana Province to conclude the projected tasks.

He emphasized that the agreement with Nicaragua is already in effect because two mathematicians, one civil engineer, and three additional professors are already working in the Basic Sciences Division of UNAM.

OIL SALES TO JAPAN TO AVERAGE 160,000 BARRELS

FL061930 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1715 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 6 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico will continue to sell Japan 160,000 barrels of crude oil per day, making that country the third largest Mexican client, the parastatal enterprise Mexican Petroleum has announced. Pemex Director Mario Ramon Beteta and Tokio Nagayama, president of the Mexican Petroleum Importing Company, renewed the yearly supply contract, Pemex added.

Beteta revealed that the installations at Puerto Salina are near completion, and that they will be used for exporting all the crude oil to Japan. Currently, about 20 percent of the oil is shipped through the Gulf of Mexico and the rest through the Pacific.

He noted that relations with the Japanese enterprise, which began in 1979, have been consolidated and stabilized during times of uncertainty in the world market.

Nagayama, who is also president of Japan's Oil Enterprises Association, stated that his country's economy is recovering and he foresees an increase in the demand for oil during 1984 and 1985.

Likewise, Pemex stated that Japan is a privileged source of technology, capital, and credits, which makes relations with that nation a strategic tie of first importance, because Japan lacks oil resources. Japan is the country recording the most spectacular results in energy saving, Pemex indicated.

PSUM DENIES OBEYING INSTRUCTIONS FROM ABROAD

PA072034 Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 4 Feb 84 p 10

[By Antonio Gil Vargas]

[Text] The Central Committee of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico, PSUM, yesterday denied through its press office that it obeys any instructions from abroad, adding that its policy is defined by the social, economic, and political conditions in Mexico.

The party stressed that it struggles for democracy and socialism and defended this as a simple transfer of a system from other struggles in the world, without requiring that influence be exercised by the Soviet Union, the Soviet Communist Party, or some other country.

"We are a party that maintains international relations, practices proletarian internationalism, and maintains relations of solidarity with labor and revolutionary parties and with international democratic forces. [quotation marks as published]

Jaime Trejo asserted: "These relations are based on the struggle for peace, democracy, solidarity among peoples, and the freedom of workers. The party also struggles for international relations in which exploitation and oppression of the people by imperialism are replaced by other values, reflecting respect for popular self-determination and cooperation for common development, both economic and social."

Referring to the statement made to EL SOL DE MEXICO by Gumersindo Magana Negrete, president of the Mexican Democratic Party, to the effect that his party does not seek internationalization because this would imply the role of a servant to older nations and parties, the PSUM curtly stated that they seek a national plan based on Mexico's conditions, without influence from abroad.

The PSUM said that, as a national party, it is composed of the working class, which includes both rural and urban workers, and of the intellectuals, and that it is struggling to establish a socialist society in Mexico, "determined by the historical development and realities in our country."

BRIEFS

TRADE BALANCE -- The Mexican Institute of Foreign Trade, IMCE, has announced that Mexico enjoyed a favorable trade balance of $12.08 billion between January and November 1983. [Excerpt] [Mexico City THE NEWS in English 22 Jan 84 p 4]

OIL SALES TO SPAIN -- Pemex will sell 20,000 more barrels of crude oil per day to Spain, in addition to the 160,000 barrels it currently sells that country. In 1983, oil sales to Spain amounted to $1.5 billion. [Summary] [Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 18 Jan 84 p 4 PA]

NUCLEAR RESEARCH INVESTMENTS -- The National Institute for Nuclear Research will get the highest budget of its history this year, with 1.98 billion pesos being earmarked for investments alone, according to Mario Caballero Luna, secretary general of the Sole Trade Union of Nuclear Industry Workers. [Summary] [Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 23 Jan 84 p 3 PA]

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON MONGE VISIT

PA071845 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 7 Feb 84 pp A-1, A-14

[Joint communique issued by Panama and Costa Rica on 6 February 1984 on the occasion of Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge's 4-6 February official visit to Panama]

[Text] In response to an invitation extended by His Excellency Ricardo de la Espriella, president of the Republic of Panama, His Excellency Luis Alberto Monge, president of the Republic of Costa Rica, paid an official visit to Panama City on 4, 5, and 6 February 1984. President Monge traveled in the company of Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez, Presidency Minister Fernando Berrocal, and Information and Communications Minister Armando Vargas.

The two presidents took advantage of this visit to reaffirm the insoluble ties of brotherhood that unite the Republics of Costa Rica and Panama and to strengthen the feelings of solidarity and cooperation set forth in the Joint Declaration signed in April 1983.

The presidents of Costa Rica and Panama also took advantage of this occasion to promote the development of the Border Cooperation Agreement and of other agreements that are currently in effect. To this end, His Excellency Ricardo de la Espriella, president of the Republic of Panama, designated Their Excellencies Mario de Diego and Carlos Hoffmann, ministers of the presidency and of commerce and industries, respectively, to work, by common agreement with Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega, to coordinate for Panama the Execution of the objectives established in the Joint Declaration of 1983 and during this official visit, particularly those objectives pursued within the framework of the Border Agreement, such as:

A. Ensuring the effective fulfillment of the Agreement, as well as the development of the recommendations made by the various working groups.

B. Establishing special commissions, particularly in the areas of health, education, and the agro-industries.

C. Obtaining the necessary financing.

For his part, His Excellency Luis Alberto Monge, president of the Republic of Costa Rica, designated Presidency Minister Fernando Berrocal, Planning Minister Juan Manuel Villasuso, and Information and Communication Minister Armando Vargas to work, by common agreement with Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez, to coordinate the work for Costa Rica in implementing the objectives set forth in the Border Agreement.

The two presidents agreed that the overall development of the border area between Panama and Costa Rica can become a model of friendly cooperation, reflecting in practice the goal of harmonious development among the Central American countries, as proposed by the Contadora Group.

They expressed their concern over the Central American crisis, the repercussions of which directly affect the Republics of Costa Rica and Panama, and examined their effects and the actions that must be taken as soon as possible to achieve a prompt solution.

They endorsed representative democracy, placing special emphasis on the process of democratization in which the two countries are engaged, as the best way to prevent the emergence of regimes of force, destabilizing war-oriented organizations, and alien ideologies that might seek to impose themselves against the will of the popular majorities. They firmly endorsed the economic policies outlined by SELA, particularly the agreements reached at the Latin American Economic Conference recently held in Quito, Ecuador, which are intended to help solve the grave economic problems currently besetting Latin America. They also agreed in reiterating that "it is the political and moral obligation of the developed and powerful countries to cooperate in resolving this crisis."

They stressed the importance that the two countries accord to the creation of the SELA Action Committee for Central America, and promised to give all of their support to the work that it must carry out. They also expressed their satisfaction at the recent establishment of the Latin American Agency for Special Information Services (ALASEI), because it is a significant step in strengthening mutual familiarization among the peoples of Latin America. It will also make it possible to present a realistic image of our countries to the world.

They confirmed their support of the Contadora Group's peace efforts, the most viable political formula for achieving peace in Central America by democratic means on the basis of understanding and the self-determination of the peoples involved in the current Central American conflicts. In this regard, His Excellency Ricardo de la Espriella, president of Panama, acknowledged Costa Rica's proclamation of active, perpetual, and unarmed neutrality in the wars that are affecting other states. He also stressed the contribution that this makes to peace and to the political solution of the conflicts on the Central American Isthmus.

They agreed to meet again in April, at the border area, to evaluate the progress made in fulfilling goals that are of interest to both nations and to the Central American region as a whole. The high-level ministerial groups designated by the two presidents will meet in the coming weeks, first in Costa Rica and then in Panama, to prepare for the meeting between the two presidents in April.

His Excellency Luis Alberto Monge, president of Costa Rica, expressed, on his behalf and for his official party, his feelings of appreciation and esteem for the deferential treatment accorded them by the Panamanian Government. He also sent his greetings to the Panamanian people, and expressed his gratitude for the warm hospitality with which he has always been received in this nation.

Issued and signed in Panama City, Panama, on 6 February 1984.

DE LA ESPRIELLA ON PEACE, CONTADORA EFFORTS

PA072011 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Speech given by Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella at the opening of an Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers symposium in Panama City on 6 February -- recorded]

[Text] The problems that we Latin Americans are suffering are the result of distortions created in the development of our own countries. The particular nature of these problems demands solutions that we alone can produce. We need original answers and methods to open a path to our own unified democratization expressed in effective, pluralist participation by all social sectors.

Developmental models tested in other regions are not necessarily the best for dealing with the problems that we must solve. The special nature of our half-breed America calls for originality in our own solutions, as General Omar Torrijos capably demonstrated.

For this reason, we have always held that the final solutions to Central America's conflicts can be agreed upon by the parties in conflict. The idea is to facilitate dialogue and thus to promote negotiated political solutions between the groups involved.

It is neither possible nor reasonable to strive simply to return to the status quo existing before the conflict. Nor is it possible to impose peace through war, with the resulting high cost in lives and destruction. The peace that we want is not the peace of submission, but the peace that offers new and better methods of coexistence.

The UN resolution that I have often mentioned discusses the means by which this goal should be sought. It alludes to the perfection of a democratic, representative, and pluralist system that guarantees effective popular participation in decisionmaking and ensures the various sectors of opinion free access to honest and periodic elections.

In this context, the resolution stresses a truth that the unionist movement is well aware of: that the strengthening of democratic institutions is closely linked to the evolution of and progress attained in economic development and social justice.

But, despite the fact that the Contadora Group has achieved some progress recently, there are sectors that continue to insist on aggravating the situation by launching new provocations.

We who seek peace thus face a dual duty: We must mobilize a general commitment to the containment and eradication of various means of aggression, including verbal wars, arms buildups, border incursions, the presence of foreign troops and military advisers, and the supply of provisions for irregular forces; and we must also promote all necessary means of arriving at a prompt solution to the deep causes of the conflicts, such as the structural backwardness and distortions, dependence, oppression, and misery.

The Contadora initiative has already made significant achievements. But as the diplomatic effort that it is, it is not proper to demand that the group deal with all facets and aspects of Central America's problems. It is necessary to strengthen the Contadora Group by mobilizing many social resources, including the American and world union movement, for example.

As an effort undertaken by a group at the foreign ministry level, the Contadora Group primarily deals with situations related to relationships between sovereign states. Internal conflicts in a specific country, such as the civil war in El Salvador, may require that the peace initiative be implemented through additional political efforts. This is essential, because the Salvadoran issue is a key to solving the Central American problem.

It is necessary to admit, however, that despite the inevitably complex, delicate, and slow nature of the procedure, the Contadora Group has attained extremely important achievements.

First, the Contadora Group has created a remarkable world consensus around the idea that peace may be achieved through political mediation and that the threat of military intervention should be rejected by all mankind. It has contributed significantly to the control of this danger, just as it has prevented the serious risk of a generalized war for more than a year now. Similarly, the Contadora Group has facilitated the return to normal relations between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

In addition, as far as detente and peaceful coexistence in the area are concerned, the Contadora Group has made progress in defining the conflict's causes and means, as well as in specifying the necessary principles by which its most pressing origins may be eliminated. Contadora has also structured a system of consultation with and among the area's governments and countries. Finally, it has established means of negotiation that have already begun to work. We must reinforce this initiative and give it ample, vigorous support throughout the world's various sectors of public opinion, because peace, to which everyone has a right to aspire, must be collective and undivided. To achieve peace is the responsibility of all. Panama, which is historically and culturally linked to the Bolivarian and Caribbean nations, accepts and shares this responsibility by sharing our concerns and our efforts with you. We are sure that agreements and decisions will emerge from this symposium that will give new impetus to this struggle for peace, which is, in fact, a struggle for life. Thank you very much.

VICE PRESIDENT ILLUECA ON NEUTRALITY OF CANAL

PA072325 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 7 Feb 84 pp 1, 14

[Article by Jaime Beitia]

[Text] The security of the canal is not and cannot be based on military considerations, Panamanian Vice President Jorge Illueca said as he inaugurated the 24th Conference of the Inter-American Lawyers Federation, which began in Panama City yesterday.

"Path of Harmony"

Dr Illueca, who is the president of the 38th UN General Assembly, said: "We want the canal to be a path of harmony, a path open to all the peoples and nations of the world at all times, in peace time as well as in times of war."

"We have never wanted, and to the extent of our abilities we will never allow, the Panama Canal to serve military ends or purposes," Illueca said.

Reaffirmation of Sovereignty

The Panamanian vice president added that the Treaty of Neutrality in no way can or should impair the territorial integrity, sovereignty, or independence of the Republic of Panama. While speaking at the international lawyers forum, which is being attended by representatives of more than 21 countries, Illueca did not fail to note the serious concern of the people and the Government of Panama regarding a fair interpretation of the spirit and intent of the 1977 Treaty on the Permanent Neutrality and Operation of the Panama Canal.

Unrenounceable Neutrality

He added that the neutrality of the canal has always been an unrenounceable aspiration for Panama, as our country has firmly stated at numerous international forums. Illueca also said that in response to any theory that tries to ignore Panama's authentic rights and legitimate gains, one need only invoke the opinion that Richard Baxter, a Harvard Law School professor and leading authority on international maritime law, expressed to the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, namely, that the presumed right of the United States to intervene would have no legal basis under the terms of the treaty, because it would run contrary to Paragraph 4 of Article 2 of the UN Charter. Illueca said that "Baxter reached the crystal-clear conclusion that if the United States were to take military action to keep the canal open, such military action could not be directed against Panama's territorial integrity."

KISSINGER SAID INVOLVED IN BARLETTA CANDIDACY

PA071916 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 7 Feb 84 p 1-A

["As of Today" column]

[Text] The LATIN AMERICAN WEEKLY REPORT, a scholarly publication, printed an article on Panamanian politics in its 13 January 1984 edition clearly stating that Nicolas Ardito Barletta's presidential candidacy is the result of Henry Kissinger's recommendation to the Panamanian Government in general and to General Noriega in particular.

As is public knowledge, the General Staff imposed Ardito Barletta's candidacy on the government party during a meeting held at its headquarters in Tinajitas. This presents several exceedingly serious issues: First, the Armed Forces have returned us to a situation that had been overcome through a long and tenacious struggle by all the republican governments, which, with intelligence and true bravery, brought back the principle factors for national sovereignty in Panama, political self-determination and the right to select our own leaders. Despite its pseudo-nationalist postures, the revolutionary government has been the most given to political defeatism in our history, as is shown by the fact that it has allowed the foreigner, Kissinger, to interfere shamelessly in Panama's internal politics.

There is also the issue of the radical separation between the military's promises and their actions. There is no turning back. The commander in chief and other members of the General Staff are continuing to intervene in party politics, making firm decisions that cannot be appealed.

All of this has created serious doubts about the presumed democratization process and the legitimacy of the coming elections.

FOUR PARTIES SUPPORT BARLETTA'S NOMINATION

PA071840 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Approximately 5 minutes ago, the Labor Party, the Republican Party, the Liberal Party, and the Democratic Revolutionary Party issued a communique announcing the formation of an alliance.

The communique says that the political parties that have signed the agreement acknowledge Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta's occupation of important national posts due to his knowledge, experience, talent, and honesty. For this reason, his presidential candidacy on behalf of the signatory parties is recommended.

The communique also recommends Eric Arturo Del Valle [president of the Republican Party] and Dr Roderick Esquivel [president of the Executive Committee of the Liberal Party] as candidates for first and second vice presidents of the republic, respectively, because of the merits of their respective parties.

The communique notes that the political agreement reached today is based on the historic commitment of respect for the full exercise of democracy and of work toward a stable climate of peace and progress that would include a permanent promotion of economic development, Christian solidarity, and respect for private initiative, human dignity, and social justice.

The communique also states: We reiterate our firm trust in the maturity of the Panamanian people, and we invite our supporters, members, and all voters in general to enthusiastically support this alliance among the political parties that have united to create a secure, stable fatherland based on prosperity, justice, and the peace resulting from national accord.

This communique was issued approximately 5 mintues ago at the Paitilla Holiday Inn [in Panama City].

BISHOPS COMMENT ON 'CURRENT POLITICAL MOMENT'

PA070304 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 5 Feb 84 pp C-14, C-15

[Pastoral letter issued by the Panamanian Episcopal Conference, CFP, in Panama City on 5 February 1984: "On the Current Political Moment"]

[Summary] Introduction

The Panamanian Episcopal Conference has traditionally commented on the country's problems. On this occasion, we "wish to offer the entire country our comments on the political situation we are facing" prior to the national elections. We urge "all the national parties and the people in general to confront the vital issues on the basis of programs," and to build a future based on service rather than power, on sharing rather than personal gain, and on the exaltation of human dignity rather than on the domination and control of people.

PART I: Some of Panama's Serious Problems

In view of the coming elections, "Panamanians -- politicians as well as the people -- must give thought to the serious problems that Panama is facing. Only in this way can realistic and adequate plans and programs for the future be established."

Some of these crucial problems are:

1. An individualistic mentality, which is manifested as consumerism.

2. A lack of political maturity.

3. The manifestations of poverty in Panama.

4. The improper implementation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

5. The double standard existing between our international and domestic economies. The Panamanian economy is plagued by economic dependence, overindebtedness, mismanagement of public funds, and excessive profit-seeking on the part of the private enterprise sector.

6. The new Law of Defense Forces of the Republic of Panama, which "clearly reflects some of the precepts of the so-called 'national security ideology,'" and has therefore generated "justified unrest." It should be "reconsidered through the appropriate legal channels."

7. The alarming levels of corruption in government, private enterprise, and the family, and the unfair application of justice.

8. The crisis in the educational system.

9. The neglect of the Indians.

10. The misuse of the media.

PART II: Doctrinal Reflections

"God has invited us to take the path of building a new world." Thus, the church cannot remain indifferent to our people's problems. "We are searching for and we need a human economy at the service of the general well-being of every man and of all men, and not man at the service of the economy."

Politics must be at the service of man just as the economy must be, with all citizens having the right and the obligation to participate in politics. "Political power is not an end in itself"; it is a means to promote the common welfare.

"It is not the role of the church to present technical solutions to economic and political problems," but it must accompany men in specific situations.

PART III: Toward Lines of Action

"We call on the Panamanian people to make an effort to be calm and to show political maturity." "The government must guarantee an honest and democratic electoral process." The political parties must convincingly present their platforms, which must be seriously studied by the voters. The media must provide equal space and time to all parties, allowing them to present their platforms seriously and without excessive propaganda. After the elections, the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the new government must be guided by respect for the individual's rights and duties, a quest for the common good, and preferential service to the poor.

"In the economic realm, we insist that labor be given priority over capital."

Conclusion

In conclusion, we must note that today men have more social, technical, and cultural ties than ever. "We cannot carry out the task of building our nation in isolation." "This is particularly true in the case of Central America. We must support all efforts for peace in the area with our sincere and constant prayers, and with our words and actions, as a people, as a Church, and as a nation."

Jose M. Carrizo, bishop of Chitre, president of the CEP; Marcos G. McGrath, archbishop of Panama, vice president of the CEP; Carlos A. Lewis, auxiliary bishop of Panama; Daniel E. Nunez, bishop of David; Jose Dimas Cedeno, bishop of Santiago, Veraguas; Carlos M. Ariz, Darien apostolic vicar; Jesus Serrano P., bishop of Ipseli; Martin Legarra, former bishop of Santiago, Veraguas; and Jose Agustin Ganuza, bishop of the Bocas del Toro prelature.

MATUTINO COLUMNIST NOTES REPRESSION IN NICARAGUA

PA032306 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 2 Feb 84 p 4-A

["Moyolandia" column by Harmodio Icaza: "Sandinist Repression"]

[Text] No matter how hard the members of the Nicaraguan communist junta try to prove that ideological pluralism exists there, they must act repressively in the hour of truth, because communism has to be imposed by force. One example will suffice.

The following is a communique issued by the Christian Brothers of La Salle High School in Managua. It is self-explanatory and is convincing proof that there is no such pluralism or democracy. It reads as follows:

Communique issued by the Brothers of La Salle Christian Schools [Title]

On the problem that has emerged between the Education Ministry and the La Salle Pedagogical Institute in Managua, we report:

1. On 11 December 1983, the members of the Board of Directors of the La Salle Pedagogical Institute presented their resignations to their religious superior.

2. The superiors of the congregation appointed a new board of directors after consulting with the assembly of the La Salle brothers who serve in Managua.

3. The new Board of Directors of the La Salle Pedagogical Institute presented to the Education Ministry, within the period established for the school calendar, a list of professors for the 1984 school year in line with the agreement signed by the congregation and said Education Ministry.

4. The Education Ministry, after a prolonged discussion with the directors, resolved in an official document signed on 21 January 1984 that it would not agree to the reorganization of the teaching staff as presented by the board.

Therefore, the Institute of the Brothers of Christian Schools:

1. Feels that the Education Ministry's decision violates the rights of private schools in general and La Salle schools in particular.

2. Desiring to remain true to the principles of Catholic and La Salle education, cannot accept the Education Ministry decision.

3. Requests that the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction use its good offices to have the Education Ministry reconsider the resolution.

4. Issues copies of the present communique to the following institutions:

Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education (The Vatican);
Superior General of the Brothers of Christian Schools (Rome);
Inter-American Confederation of Catholic Education;
International Confederation of Catholic Education;
Latin American Bishops Conference (CELAM);
Latin American Conference of Religious Women (CLAR);
La Sallist World Association;
La Sallist Latin American Region;
La Sallist Communities all over the world;
La Salle Schools the world over;
Central American Bishops Conferences;
Nicaraguan Bishops Conference;
National Federation of Catholic Teachers (FENEC);
Nicaraguan Confederation of Catholic Schools (CONFER);
National Union of Parents' Associations of Catholic Schools;
Embassies of Spain, Italy and the FRG;
The Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction;
Nicaraguan Education Ministry;
Board of Directors of the Pedagogical Institute's Parents Association.

[Dated] Managua, 21 January 1984

COSTA RICA

MONGE MAKES STATEMENT AFTER VENEZUELA VISIT

PA072125 San Jose Domestic Service in Spanish 0109 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Statement by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge on 6 February "upon his return from a visit to Venezuela and Panama"; place not further specified -- live or recorded, in progress]

[Excerpts] The chiefs of state of several Latin American countries have stated their support for our peace policy, which in the case of a war between two other countries means neutrality.

Little by little, the wisdom of the Costa Rican people, enriched by the experience of many generations, is being acknowledged and confirmed in the community of nations. My institutionalizing of neutrality has been recognized by other states.

The Caracas Declaration is important for Costa Rica because it supports the efforts that several chiefs of state are making to avoid war in Central America and to secure peace with social justice and effective democracy. The declaration is in favor of channeling these efforts through the Contadora Group, where Costa Rica participates actively because we are against violence and war as a means of solving political conflicts.

Central America's dilemma is dramatically clear: Contadora or war. We are against war. We side with Contadora. Costa Ricans must know that the Monge administration is against all kinds of dictatorships, whether of a military-oligarchic nature or Marxist-Leninist. This is why we say that there cannot be peace without democracy. This political position that rejects both communist and oligarchic dictatorships is in favor of the people's sovereignty and free vote. This was established in the Caracas Declaration.

While in Caracas I had a meeting with Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta. The Sandinists had asked Costa Rica for an audience to again state their fears that Nicaraguans linked to Commander Eden Pastora could use our territory to harass Nicaragua. I told Mr Ortega that political exile only means political space for Nicaraguan dissidents, and that the Costa Rican Government is doing everything possible to prevent the use of its territory for military activities.

I gave him evidence that there is an increase in the campaign aimed at discrediting the Costa Rican democracy. One of these documents reproduces a report issued by AGENCIA NUEVA NICARAGUA with a San Jose dateline. It deals with the engineers offered by the United States to work on the (Canas-Palo) Road. The Costa Rican Government had announced its decision to decline the offer, but the Nicaraguan Government's news agency insisted on its malicious reporting.

Mr Ortega promised me he would talk with the persons responsible at the news agency to correct the information. A LA NACION journalist who went to Venezuela with me asked me if the meeting with Mr Ortega had been positive. I told him that these meetings are neither positive no negative, but simply inevitable because we are the chiefs of state of two neighboring countries.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan sent me a message in Caracas through U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, with whom I had a lengthy meeting to discuss the Central American situation. Mr Shultz recalled the relevance of the ideas in the speech I made in 1982 at the world conference on free elections, as well as the demonstrations of friendships that the people of Costa Rica had given to President Reagan during his visit to Costa Rica. The democratic alliance that unites Costa Rica and the United States is in effect, and it is vigorous.

EL SALVADOR

REBELS OCCUPY PART OF PAN AMERICAN HIGHWAY

PA080325 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Raul Beltran Bonilla report]

[Excerpts] Civilian sources have reported that early this morning leftist rebels entered Jucuapa, San Buenaventura, and Nueva Granada Provinces, in Usulutan Department, and Nueva Guadalupe, Lolotique, and Chinameca, in San Miguel Department, taking control of the stretch of the Pan American Highway in that area.

Air Force units sent to the area have bombed presumed leftist positions outside those communities, as well as areas bordering the Pan American Highway where, according to the military, there are no civilian inhabitants.

YSKL has also been able to confirm that the rebels have established roadblocks beginning at the turnoff to El Semillero hamlet, 1.5 km from El Triunfo, and have stopped traffic. The same sources today told YSKL that there has been persistent shelling of the rebel positions, which are reportedly located a short distance from the Pan American Highway.

Traffic toward the east has been totally paralyzed due to repairs underway on the Oro Bridge on the Coastal Highway; they have been in progress since 0900 and will end at 1500.

Reports on various activities in western El Salvador indicate that Army units are continuing search operations to locate leftists in El Manguito canton, north of the artillery brigade's positions. Initial reports from official sources claim that the rebels have retreated frim that area toward the north, particularly toward Chalatenango Department.

GUATEMALA

PARTIES PERMITTED TEMPORARY REGISTRATION

PA080219 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] The Supreme Electoral Tribunal yesterday issued urgent instructions for the Citizens Registry to begin registering political parties on a temporary basis once they have fulfilled three requirements, which include the presentation of more than 4,000 signatures of members, the party's charter, and a sworn declaration certified by a notary public stating that they have party organizations in 50 municipalities and 12 departmental capitals.

Due to the short time left, and the fact that no political party has yet been registered, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal has eliminated the most important requirement, which was the holding of general assemblies in each departmental capital, a prerequisite that must be fulfilled by the parties after they are registered for their candidates to be elected to National Constituent Assembly.

The instructions issued to the Citizens Registry state that the political parties registered on a temporary basis will not be allowed to remain under this status. They will have to continue the procedures to fulfill the requirements demanded by the law to be considered legally registered political parties. If they fail to do so, they will lose their status and their privilages will be canceled.

HONDURAS

NOTE SENT TO MANAGUA ON MISKITO KILLINGS

PA071518 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 6 Feb 84 p 17

[Press Communique No 26 issued by the Honduran Foreign Secretariat's Office of Press and Information on 3 February in Tegucigalpa]

[Text] Acting Foreign Secretary Arnulfo Pineda Lopez has dispatched the following note to Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman in regard to a statement attributed to Adolfo Perez Esquivel, 1980 Nobel Peace Prize laureate:

"Mr Minister: I address Your Excellency to expand on the information contained in our Foreign Secretariat's Note No 86-DSM, dated 25 January 1984, responding to your note of 24 January 1984, which referred to charges allegedly made by Mr Adolfo Perez Esquivel, the 1980 Nobel Peace Prize winner, to the effect that 200 Nicaraguan Miskitos were murdered by a Honduran military patrol on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border on 6 January 1984.

"As we told Your Excellency in that note, the Honduran ambassador in Argentina met yesterday with Mr Perez Esquivel, who is currently vacationing outside Buenos Aires, and Mr Perez emphatically denied having accused Honduran military officers of killing 200 Miskitos. He explained that he had merely repeated a report that had been received the day before his visit to the refugees' camp at Mocoron, when officials of international organizations who were there heard a radio announcement from a Honduran military patrol to the effect that it had been informed that some Miskitos had been killed on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border, as a result of which the patrol was requesting the presence of an investigating committee.

"Mr Perez Esquivel added that Lieutenant Colonel Valderrama, deputy commander of the region, told him that the area commander was already investigating the report, and that the number of victims had been exaggerated.

"Perez Esquivel also said that he did not have the opportunity to meet with Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica while in Panama, since the Contadora Group meeting was already over, and thus could not tell him about the report on the alleged incident. He noted that he had informed Your Excellency about it, but without making any specific charges; rather, he requested that an investigation be undertaken by both our governments and, should the facts be confirmed, that those responsible for the action be punished.

"As Your Excellency will confirm, the supposed charges lodged by Mr Perez Esquivel against the Honduran Government were simply another publicity stunt undertaken by the Nicaraguan Government, bearing no relationship to the truth and similar to the supposed kidnapping and murder of Monsignor Schlaefer last December.

"Fortunately, the truth has come out in both cases, demonstrating the Nicaraguan Government's lack of scruples in its futile efforts to hide the facts from its people, who are affected by them.

"The fact is that the incident in which the Nicaraguan Government has tried to involve Mr Perez Esquivel took place as follows: On 5 January, Sandinist People's Army elements entered the Honduran community of Sunlaya in Gracias a Dios Department, and massacred some 18 Nicaraguan Miskito refugees, as a result of which our Government is filing a strong formal protest, demanding a prompt explanation from your government of this repulsive deed, knowledge of which is already spreading through the inter-American community.

"Offering our best regards, we remain

"Acting Foreign Secretary Arnulfo Pineda Lopez"

INDIAN GROUP BLAMES REAGAN FOR REPRESSION

FL061913 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1815 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 4 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- The Organization for the Liberation of Honduran Indians, [OLIH] has announced at a press conference that it rejects all policy imposed by foreign forces on Honduran indigenous communities.

OLIH coordinator Julio Cesar Calderon denounced the existence of two clandestine cemeteries in which hundreds of Indians silenced by the Honduran Government, the counterrevolution, and the Americans are buried. Calderon stated that the ethnic groups live in constant anguish, are persecuted and exploited and then murdered, and the government of President Reagan is solely responsible. He stated that the Central Intelligence Agency forces the Indians to join the ranks of the counterrevolutionaries and indoctrinates them so that they reject socialism and communism.

NICARAGUA

NUNEZ EXPLAINS NINE STEPS OF ELECTORAL PROCESS

PA070424 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez has explained that there are nine steps to be followed in the electoral process. Commander Nunez said that the first of the nine steps was the appearance of all the political parties -- even those without a representation -- before the State Council's Electoral Commission.

The second step ended on Friday with the discussion by the Electoral Commission of the first draft of the electoral bill.

The third step will be taken on Wednesday with the presentation to the State Council members of the final draft and the amendments to the Constitution, as well as recommendations.

Commander Nunez said the fourth step involves the appointment by the State Council of a special commission that will study and report on the final draft and the amendments to the Constitution. The commission will then present its findings to the State Council for discussion and approval. Once the electoral bill has been drafted it will be presented to the political parties, and afterward the members of these political parties will meet with the Electoral Commission and present their recommendations. Each organization represented at the State Council will have to discuss the draft bill with its members.

The fifth step involves the drafting of the communications media bill and its discussion, study, and approval during a plenary session of that legislative body.

The organization of the electoral apparatus will be the sixth step.

The seventh step will be the electoral process, Commander Nunez added. The parties that will participate in the electoral process will be registered, party directors will be chosen, and candidates will be nominated. This will be followed by the opening and closing of the electoral campaign, which is expected to last 2 and 1/2 months.

The ninth step includes the elections, presentation of credentials, and the swearing in of the elected officials.

COUNCIL DISCUSSES CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

PA070456 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] The State Council's Electoral Commission today began studying and discussing the amendments to Articles 9, 10, and 28 of the Constitution. The State Council's press and public relations directorate has announced that according to the Electoral Commission's schedule the State Council will hear the commission's recommendations during the fourth extraordinary session to be held on Wednesday, 8 February. The State Council communique adds that all members of the council have been summoned to attend this extraordinary session, which will begin at 1500 on 8 February.

CENSORSHIP STOPS 6 FEB PUBLICATION OF LA PRENSA

PA070501 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0146 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Managua, 6 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- LA PRENSA sources have reported that today for the third time this year the opposition newspaper LA PRENSA did not circulate due to censorship problems.

The government organization responsible for censorship did not authorize a front page headline on the official report regarding fighting in the southern area of the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast, the spokesman for the evening newspaper said.

In view of the impossibility of publishing the information with the headline chosen by the newspaper's editors, the LA PRENSA directors decided not to publish the edition.

Last month the paper did not circulate on one occasion because of censorship. This month the paper has been censored twice.

PASTORA SAID SEEKING AID FROM U.S., EUROPE

PA071736 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1527 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] San Jose, 7 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- Eden Pastora, known as Commander "Cero," left Nicaragua in the last few hours, presumably for the United States.

Members of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) confirmed this for ACAN-EFE, but noted that they cannot disclose Pastora's itinerary.

However, they stated that the purpose of the guerrilla's trip is to "iron out several offers of assistance" made in the past few days, after he had to turn several hundred peasants, who had neither weapons nor food, over to Costa Rica.

Sources close to Commander "Cero" indicated that the ARDE leader's visit is to permit him to express appreciation to democratic organizations in Europe and America that have made important offers of aid and to conclude arrangements for delivery of this aid.

ARDE CLAIMS EPS CASUALTIES IN AMBUSH ATTACKS

PA072013 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 6 Feb 84

[War Bulletin No 163 issued by the Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces General Command, in "the mountains of Nicaragua" on 6 February]

[Text] The General Command of ARDE's Armed Forces reports to the people of Nicaragua and the world:

On 17 January 1984, the (Francisco Leyt Column) of the (Saturn Group), led by (Companero Tigre) at the place known as (Cano Eloisa), in the Punta Gorda region, detected an enemy patrol from the interventionist Army. Our forces immediately prepared an ambush by luring the enemy toward a field which had previously been mined by our men. The enemy walked into the trap at 1430; 10 were killed and the rest withdrew. Our column sent reports indicating that it will continue to follow instructions and advance toward Point X.

A report sent by the (Gaspar Garcia Laviana Column) of the (Felix Pedro Martinez Group), led by (Companero Franklin), states that at 1400 on 30 January 1984, at Boca Tapada and Agua Zarca Sur, in the Punta Gorda region, the pro-Soviet Army was ambushed. The enemy suffered five casualties during a 5-minute clash. At 2100 the next day, in the same location, another EPS [Sandinist Peoples' Army] patrol was ambushed and attacked. In this 5-minute clash the enemy suffered 5 dead and 11 wounded. Our forces withdrew and returned 1 hour later; during a 20-minute clash, the enemy suffered three more deaths.

At 0800, 1 February 1984, the same column, again led by (Companero Franklin), attacked three flanks of the occupation army at (Capilla de San Sebastian), in the Punta Gorda region. They suffered nine casualties to their northeastern flank, five casualties to their western flank during the 20-minute clash.

At 0700, 2 February 1984, the same patrol surprised an EPS reconaissance patrol at Boca Tapada, near (Capilla de San Sebastian), and caused them three dead and four wounded. An Interventionist Army column was sent as a reinforcement and tried to surround our courageous fighters, who expertly repelled the attack during a 15-minute clash and inflicted many casualties on the enemy.

At 0730 the next day, in the area of (Capilla de San Sebastian), our forces again clashed with the enemy, inflicting four casualties on them.

At 1100, 1 February, the (Wenceslao Aviles Column) of the (Barba Tres Group), led by (Companero Culebra), at (Cuesta del Mono) in the jurisdiction of El Almendro, ambushed and destroyed a [word indistinct] truck with a Claymore mine. The truck's occupants were attacked by our troops with rifle fire in the 20-minute clash, inflicting 25 casualties, both dead and wounded. Our forces recovered one AK-47 rifle, serial number 1953GDK7487, four clips, and ammunition belts.

At 0900, 4 February, the Colmillo 5 patrol of the Francisco Estrada Column, led by (Companero Ramon Trevino), at (El Letrero) in the jurisdiction of (Nueva Guinea), ambushed an EPS patrol. They suffered three casualties and their leader was wounded in the 15-minute clash. Without totalitarism or a return to the past!

COMMENTARY VIEWS U.S. PRESENCE IN HONDURAS

PA080040 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 6 Feb 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] Although the joint U.S.-Honduran military maneuvers that have been under way in Honduras since August 1983 are coming to an end, the U.S. military presence in that Central American country is not ending.

On the contrary, some 1,000 U.S. soldiers will stay in Honduras to take part in new war games planned by Washington and Tegucigalpa for mid year. This is the official report that was issued to justify the continued presence of U.S. troops in Honduras.

However, it is clear to all that the joint U.S.-Honduran military exercises are not isolated events; they are part of a program to strengthen the direct U.S. military presence in Central America. This was confirmed in a memorandum that General Paul Gorman, chief of the U.S. Army Southern Command, sent to Congress, in which he stressed that the "Big Pine II" maneuvers now concluding in Honduras are a prelude to the permanent presence of U.S. troops in Central America.

The "Big Pine II" exercises have been directed mainly against Nicaragua and the Salvadoran guerrilla movement. However, a considerable part of them have been directed at the Honduran people themselves. Lieutenant Colonel Alvaro Romero, member of the Honduran Army High Command, said that the alleged aim of the Agalpa Operation is to vanquish a guerrilla group in Honduras' countryside that has been gaining support among the people residing there.

Regarding this, another Honduran officer said that the people are to a subversive as water is to a fish. Therefore, he added, once the insurgents are defeated, the operation would be complemented with psychological and political actions among the area's inhabitants to dismantle the insurgent infrastructure. In other words, the war preparations are targeted against the people.

WFDY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING BEGINS 7 FEB

FL071447 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] The WFDY Executive Committee will meet today and tomorrow at the Palace of Conventions in Havana. The work done in 1983 will be evaluated and goals for 1984 will be established.

Included in the youth forum's agenda of debates is the USSR Leninist Komsomol proposal that Moscow be designated the site for the 12th World Youth and Students' Festival, to be held in the summer of 1985.

Havana is hosting the annual meeting of the WFDY Executive Committee, which will be held before the International Preparatory Committee of the 12th Festival meets on 9 February. More than 100 representatives of socialist countries, Latin America, Caribbean, Asia, and Africa are in Cuba to participate in both events. These representatives are visiting points of historical and social interest in the cities of Havana and Matanzas.

Montane Receives Soviet Delegate

FL071538 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the party's Politburo and member of the Central Committee's Secretariat, has received Viktor Mishin, first secretary of the USSR's Leninist Komosomol, at the headquarters of the Communist Party of Cuba.

Mishin and the delegation accompanying him are visiting our country to participate in a meeting of the WFDY Executive Committee that begins today at the Palace of Conventions and the first preparatory meeting of the World Festival of Youths and Students to be held later on.

Mishin visited Lenin Plaza yesterday and placed a wreath on Lenin's monument, which was inaugurated recently.

Machado Ventura Opens Meeting

FL072025 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] The meeting of the WFDY Executive Committee began at 0900 at the Palace of Conventions in our capital.

At the opening session of this meeting, attended by approximately 200 youths of Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America, WFDY President (Valy Masley) stated that at this meeting the Executive Committee must decide the organization and site of the 12th World Festival of Youths and Students which is tobe held in the summer of 1985. The delegates to the meeting will work in commissions this afternoon and tonight and will continue their discussions tomorrow.

Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the Politburo, presided over the opening of the event. [Begin Machado Ventura recording] The decision of the WFDY to hold the meeting of its Executive Committee in our country shows a great deal of soldiarity with and encouragement for us. To us, it also constitutes a fraternal tie of honest friendship among the youths of the world which you represent.

Only 14 years after the founding of the WFDY, the first socialist revolution of the Western Hemisphere succeeded in the Caribbean and since then, the youths of our homeland, without having to go underground or be persecuted, have joined the group of youth and student organizations they were always members of [as heard] and which lead the struggle of the youngest generation for social progress, justice, and peace in this strife-torn and dramatic world, whose tranquillity and well-being demand a united effort from all of us. This is a pressing and unpostponable need that calls for the unity of intelligence and will. [applause] [end recording]

RAUL CASTRO PRESENTS AWARD TO MILITARY SCHOOL

FL072328 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the party and FAR minister, today presented the Antonio Maceo Order to the FAR interservice school which bears Maceo's name. The ceremony also commemorated the 20th anniversary of the founding of the military education center.

LESOTHO ENVOY ON SOUTH AFRICA, TIES WITH HAVANA

FL071742 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1310 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Interview with Mothusi Thamsanga Mashologu, Lesotho ambassador to Cuba, Ernesto Labrada -- live in English with simultaneous translation into Spanish]

[Text] [Labrada] Mr Ambassador, what is the current situation in southern Africa in the face of the aggression of the South African regime against the countries of the region?

[Mashologu] The situation in southern Africa, as you know, has been extremely serious for a number of years because of the policy of racial discrimination practiced by the South African Government against the vast majority of the people of South Africa. For many years, the South African people have been struggling against this system, but the South African Government's reaction has been to adopt more and more repressive actions within South Africa itself. Many more people have been harassed, intimidated, and executed recently than at any time in the past because the Government of South Africa is desperately trying to preserve its policy of apartheid against mounting opposition.

The situation has become even more serious because, in addition, the South African Government has begun a policy of destabilizing the nearby countries of South Africa. It is trying to interfere directly in the internal affairs of these countries by supporting and sponsoring dissident groups which engage in criminal acts and bombings in order to undermine social and economic development.

[Labrada] We also want to know: What is the position of the Kingdom of Lesotho in the face of South African aggression?

[Mashologu] The position of Lesotho is a very critical one. As you know, we are a small country which is totally surrounded by South Africa. We had hoped that it might be possible to survive and concentrate on our country's economic and social development. But we are now aware, more than ever before, that the liberation of South Africa is critical to our own independence. The acts that South Africa has committed against my country over the past 3 years culminated in the naked aggression of 9 December 1982 when, in violation of international law, South African forces invaded my country, murdered innocent South African refugees -- men, women, and children -- and several citizens of our own country.

Now, you can understand that this is a matter which we cannot take lightly and this is one of the reasons why we have taken measures on the diplomatic front and in other ways to guarantee our future safety, but we are convinced that in the final analysis, Lesotho will only be truly free when the rest of southern African has attained its liberation.

[Labrada] One last question: How do you view the relations between the Kingdom of Lesotho and our country?

[Mashologu] We are very, very happy with the development of the relationship between Lesotho and the Republic of Cuba. We have not forgotten that Cuban was one of the first socialist countries to establish diplomatic relations with Lesotho. For a number of years the Cuban ambassador in Mozambique has been accredited also to Lesotho. He has visited Lesotho several times. We are very much impressed with the role Cuba has played in the Nonaligned Movement and we are very grateful for the support that Cuba has given us at the United Nations and in other international organizations.

We are here to try to develop these relations further, but most of all we would like to express our deep appreciation for all the initiatives that Cuba has taken so far to help us maintain our sovereignty and independence in our difficult situation.

We also realize, of course, that Cuba itself is in a difficult situation, and we think that the people of Cuba have a good understanding of our problems in southern Africa because there are many similarities between our two situations. Of course, our situation is a lot more dangerous than yours, I think. But we will try to visit Cuba often and we are hoping that more people from Lesotho will come to Cuba to exchange views with your people in all areas, including such matters as agricultural development, medicine, education. We look forward to visits from Cuban people to Lesotho.

COSTA RICAN OFFICIALS CONFLICT ON REFUGEES

Police Leave Refugees Unguarded

PA042243 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] It has been reported in San Jose that the Rural Police left unguarded the place where approximately 200 Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries were camped, in the province of Guanacaste. The report added that Costa Rican Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano confirmed that the police had stopped guarding persons in a refugee camp in the area of Tilaran. Solano said the situation was grave and added that the problem will be discussed at the National Security Council, because the Rural Police's actions could have faciliated the escape of men who are not really refugees.

Ministries Disagree on Border Policy

PA052258 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] It has been reported in San Jose that the controversy between the Costa Rican Public Security Ministry and the Government Ministry concerning the handling of and solution to the presence of Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries in Costa Rica has continued. The worsening of tensions between the two ministries will require direct mediation by President Luis Alberto Monge, who is scheduled to return Monday from Caracas after attending the inauguration of Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi.

Matters grew worse after the official newspaper LA NACION reported the removal of Colonel (Gilberto Orozco), chief of the Costa Rican Rural Police, who besides meeting with counterrevolutionary chieftain Eden Pastora received the so-called anti-Sandinist refugees, who entered Costa Rica from a Nicaraguan border area.

Other reports from San Jose indicate that Costa Rican Deputy Foreign Minister Ekhart Peters has confirmed that a Costa Rican pilot who has been held in custody in El Salvador since 1980 has been sentenced to 25 years. Peters described the sentence as harsh and irregular, and did not discard a worsening of relations between the two countries.

SALVADORAN GUERRILLA RADIOS CITED ON ACTIONS

PA071827 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Radio Venceremos, official voice of the FMLN, has charged that the Salvadoran Army has launched a new counterinsurgency operation in northern San Miguel Department. The station also warned that the military may kill civilians in the area as a result.

According to Radio Venceremos, the offensive, which involves the special Arce and Cazadores battalions, is commanded by Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, who has personally directed the murder of civilians on several occasions.

Another Salvadoran rebel station, Radio Farabundo Marti, has charged that six civilians were killed and three were injured in the bombings that the regime's Air Force perpetrated Sunday against villages at the foot of the Guazapa Volcano.

GUATEMALAN REBEL GROUPS MARK ANNIVERSARIES

URNG Issues Communique

PA072046 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] The Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG] has issued a communique on the occasion of its second anniversary. It has also been 2 years since Guatemala began taking important steps within the framework of a people's revolutionary war.

The URNG document stresses that the Guatemalan people are currently waging one of the major wars in their history -- which includes men and women of all social, political, democratic, and revolutionary sectors in the country -- in the pursuit of a new and just society. The URNG adds that the strengthening and consolidation of the member organizations and the development of plans to achieve unity have made it possible, on the second anniversary of its foundation, to carry out successful joint actions that gradually isolate and discredit the regime both here and abroad, despite U.S. and Israeli support.

FAR Leader on Alliance

PA072014 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] The Guatemalan guerrilla movement is the best way to win the war, to seize power, and to develop a policy of alliances with which to construct a national front representative of the majority of the Guatemalan people, Pablo Monsanto, commander in chief of the Guatemalan Rebel Armed Forces, FAR, has said in Peten Department.

Commemorating FAR's 21st anniversary, the rebel leader said that this alliance must be genuine, broad, flexible, and bold if it is to comprise both a national and an international front. He added that at this time the fundamental point is to wage a popular revolutionary war.

Monsanto recalled that the FAR is involved in the unity process expressed in the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity. He added that this unity effort must also involve all of the social and political sectors that share the same objectives.

Concerning Central America and the Caribbean, the Guatemalan guerrilla leader said that this region is paying the social cost of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's reelection campaign. He also criticized the Kissinger commission's report as an attempt to justify the warmongering and interventionist U.S. policy for electoral purposes.

ENFOPRENSA CITED ON VIOLENCE IN GUATEMALA

FL041503 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1340 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Guatemala City -- ENFOPRENSA has reported that the killing of 35 people, including 8 women and 3 children, confirm the climate of violence and terror in Guatemala.

The victims of the government's repression increased to 77, including missing persons who were kidnapped by police groups and bodies that were too disfigured to be identified.

ENFOPRENSA also reported the kidnapping of peasants who were forcibly removed from their homes by the Army in San Marcos Department. Meanwhile, 18 civilians were wounded by the so-called security forces of the Guatemalan regime.

The Guatemalan Labor Unity Committee reported that the Army is kidnapping labor leaders and urged the world's trade unions to condemn the human rights violations carried out by the Guatemalan regime.

Police, Rebels Clash

PA042245 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The Guatemalan news agency ENFOPRENSA has reported that the country's security forces are controlling several zones in downtown Guatemala City and its outskirts. The report added that an armed clash took place between the national police and alleged guerrilla members in Guatemala City's Zone 5. Several casualties were reported among the policemen, and three persons were arrested.

It was also learned that the Army is carrying out raids throughout the country, with the intention of recruiting youths for military service.

NICARAGUAN OFFICIALS WARN OF U.S. INTERVENTION

Ortega Makes Statement

PA072022 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] In a statement for the Spanish magazine (INTERVIU), Sandinist Commander Daniel Ortega said that so far the United States has given no sign that it is reconsidering its military policy and truly seeking a political solution to the Central American crisis.

According to the coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, this is why a direct U.S. intervention in Nicaragua and El Salvador remains a dangerous possibility. He added that instead of examining the possibility of conducting negotiations, Washington talks about investing millions of dollars to continue aiding the Salvadoran regime.

Ortega charged that economic terrorism is a new tactic employed by the Nicaraguan counterrevolution. In this connection he mentioned the recent attacks launched on Nicaraguan civilian and military facilities by planes and boats arriving from Honduras.

Interior Minister Cited

PA071854 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Nicaraguan Deputy Interior Minister Luis Carrion has stressed that the failure of the counterrevolutionary forces directed by the CIA, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, increases the danger of direct U.S. military intervention in Nicaragua. In an interview for the newspaper BARRICADA, Carrion said that the CIA is willing to sacrifice all of the Somozists in its efforts to wear the Sandinist Revolution down and to create delays and difficulties in Nicaragua's development.

Carrion said that one of the options being studied by the White House is that of using the counterrevolutionaries to create a provocation in the border area in the hope of unleashing a war between Nicaragua and Honduras. He also referred to the presence in Honduras' Choluteca Department of a training base for terrorist groups that are being trained by Dennis Reyes, a former cropduster recruited by the CIA.

Commander Carrion admitted that some leaders have made mistakes that have produced ill will in the Jinotega-Matagalpa region, but he added that these are being solved. Improperly acquired lands have been returned, and delegations of townsmen from the area will be transported to the trials of those who overstepped the limits of their authority, Carrion said.

Meanwhile, Sandinist Commander Henry Ruiz has said in Managua that the Nicaraguan revolution will not yield to pressure from the U.S. Government and will continue to support the Salvadoran people's struggle with all of its moral authority. In a speech he delivered on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the consolidation of the National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers, Commander Ruiz asked the United States and Honduras not to mistake the flexibility, rationality, wisdom, patience, and intelligence of the Sandinist revolution for symptoms of weakness, and he rejected the criminal attacks on Nicaragua by aircraft coming from Honduran territory.

NICARAGUAN EPS OFFICER ON CONTRA CASUALTIES

FL071415 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Subcommander (Irving Davila), head of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] brigade that operates in the Rio Maiz area, has disclosed that 63 counterrevolutionaries were killed and an undetermined number wounded when they were dislodged from a sector of Rio Maiz, in southeastern Nicaragua.

It was reported that several counterrevolutionary leaders were killed in the most recent clashes in that region. Some of these leaders included former members of the so-called National Guard and National Security Office of the Somoza regime.

(Davila) added that the attackers fled to Costa Rica in disarray, taking peasants as hostages to use them as human shields in the event that the EPS overtakes them.

Meanwhile, Commander Roberto Calderon, chief of the General Staff of the 2d Military Zone, disclosed that 43 invaders were killed in the most recent clashes in the Punta Gorda area, 20 km from Rio Maiz. He also said that fighting continues near Atlanta, south of Bluefields, in the Atlantic area.

ARGENTINA EXPELS FORMER BOLIVIAN MILITARY LEADER

FL071534 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] The Argentine Government has ordered the expulsion of former Bolivian military leader Luis Garcia Meza and his Interior Minister Luis Arce Gomez after cancelling the political asylum that the former Argentine regime had granted to these personages.

Meza and Arce sought refuge in Argentina shortly before Hernan Siles Zuazo was inaugurated. They were afraid of being arrested for their close ties with drug trafficking in that country.

In a decree issued in Buenos Aires, it was stated that this measure was taken because of these individuals' records, which jeopardize the constitutional order of the Argentine nation.

SHULTZ VISITS BRAZIL, TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT

PA061554 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has arrived in Brasilia for an official visit, and will meet tomorrow with Brazilian President Joao Baptista Figueiredo. Shultz had been in Rio de Janeiro since yesterday, where he met with 10 U.S. ambassadors to South American nations.

Political observers think that Shultz' meetings with Brazilian authorities are primarily to discuss agreements about military production, with the objective of Brazil becoming an arms supplier for Third World countries. The arms would be produced by this South American nation, using U.S. technology.

ANTIGOVERNMENT PROTESTS CONTINUE IN CHILE

Workers Plan Strike

PA061627 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] The Chilean National Workers Command has decided to call a general strike for 27 March, which will protest the profound economic and social crisis in the country and demand a return to a democratic government.

The strike organizers have described this new protest as the next major step in resistance against the dictatorship. According to observers, this protest could spark a chain of demonstrations against the fascist military regime similar to those begun last year in May.

Although Augusto Pinochet's regime is attempting to present the proposed strike as an action imposed by the opposition political leaders, businessmen, and union leaders -- previously pro-government -- warned that they will join the protest if the current economic conditions affecting their interests continue in Chile.

Meanwhile, in Caracas, the presidents of Panama, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Colombia, Argentina, and Venezuela signed a letter demanding that the Chilean head of state authorize the return to Chile of Anselmo Sule, vice president of the Socialist International and leader of Chile's Radical Party.

Demonstration in Santiago

PA062042 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The first national assembly of the Chilean People's Democratic Movement, an opposition group uniting leftist organizations in Chile, ended with a massive anti-government demonstration at the Caupolican Theater in Santiago. The coalition requested the formation of a single bloc to oppose the military regime, and presented proposals for an eventual provisional democratic government.

The People's Democratic Movement also supported a protest campaign scheduled for 27 March, planned this weekend by labor groups which also have planned a national strike on an as yet unspecified date. Those who attended the meeting waved banners of leftist political parties that have been outlawed by the dictatorship, and shouted anti-fascist and anti-imperialist slogans as well as slogans in favor of Cuban, Nicaraguan, and Salvadoran revolutionary groups. Following the assembly, a group of youths demonstrated in the street, but were dispersed with tear gas by the police. Several of the youths were arrested.

COLOMBIAN, ARGENTINE PRESIDENTS SIGN DECLARATION

PA062032 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Argentina and Colombia have stressed the need to strengthen the Latin American and Caribbean presence in the Nonaligned Movement and in the Group of 77. This was stated in a document signed in Bogota at the end of the 24-hour visit made to Colombia by Argentine President Raul Alfonsin, who met with Colombian President Belisario Betancur.

The document expresses the concern of both heads of state over the large foreign debt of the Latin American countries. It also stresses the importance of the ECLA for the integration and development of the area's countries.

SHINING PATH ACTIONS, OTHER REPORTS FROM PERU

15 Killed in Ayacucho

PA050439 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] It has been reported from Lima that an armed group is responsible for the death of 15 persons in Ayacucho Department. An official report said that a group of Shining Path members took over the town of Ocros, in La Mar Province, where they killed 15 persons for collaborating with the police, giving them information about Shining Path activities. This was also the fate of two persons in Huamanga: Francisco Villacreces and Bernabe Palomino.

A Lima newspaper reported that policemen abandoned a post near the town of (Hunda), Huacavelica Department, near Ayacucho, because they feared a possible attack by Shining Path members.

Government officials have revealed there will be no dialogue with university students in Peru, adding that harsh measures will be adopted if there are further disturbances at the universities. The students reject the university law issued by Belaunde Terry's government.

The newspaper EL OBSERVADOR reported that a military patrol killed five peasants in the area of (Huacrachasca), Ayacucho Department, adding that they might have been Shining Path members. The information was not confirmed.

Banking employees in Peru have been on strike for over a week, demanding the approval of employee-management agreements on salaries.

The Peruvian Federation of Light and Power Workers has announced a strike for February if the government does not approve labor-management contracts.

200 Students Arrested

PA061653 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] A series of problems has recently shaken Lima. The police have arrested a large number of students who participated in a peaceful protest against the current regime. Among the demonstrators was (Alberto Mendieta), president of the San Marcos Universtiy Students Federation, who had been on a hunger strike until recently.

Student organizations have carried out several demonstrations protesting a rise in public transportation fares and a new university regulation. During the demonstrations, the police detained more than 200 students near the Lima university, and entrance to the university campus has been banned.

In addition, it was reported that the Federation of Peruvian Students appealed to all students in the country to demonstrate against the government next week.

Shooting Incident Cited

PA062023 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] Two Peruvian Civil Guard officers were accused of shooting at two of their subordinates, an act which they tried to blame on striking peasants in the northern region of Piura. The policemen, one of whom died, were shot at while they removed obstacles placed on a highway by the strikers. The victims' relatives said that the officers had maintained poor relations with their subordinates.

It has also been reported that some 126 Peruvian students arrested during recent student protests have been released by the police, who found the charges against the students inconsistent. Other reports state that armed groups in Ayacucho carried out two attacks against policemen in that Andean region. No casualties were reported in either incident.

URUGUAY'S ARISMENDI ON OVERTHROW OF REGIME

PA042019 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Rodney Arismendi, first secretary of the Communist Party of Uruguay, has advocated a joint action by all of the people's forces to overthrow his country's fascist regime.

In a statement for the GDR newspaper NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, Arismendi stressed that his political organization is at the forefront of his people's struggle against the military regime, and he stressed that the objective and subjective conditions exist to definitely overthrow the dictatorship in Uruguay.

Commenting on the general strike staged late last month in his country, he described it as a huge victory because his people aspire to establish a democracy that is completely dissociated from the old regime.

Later Arismendi referred to the military leaders' promise that general elections will be permitted in November 1984 and asserted that the Uruguayan people will defend with every available means the election wrenched from the fascist regime from the Armed Forces' reactionary resistance.

For their part, hundreds of Uruguayan journalists marched through the streets of Montevideo to demand press freedom and an end to the restrictive measures that the dictatorship imposes on journalistic activities.

LUSINCHI VOWS SOLIDARITY WITH L.A. STATES

PA031843 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi said in Caracas that his country's effective solidarity with all Latin American states and the Caribbean will be viewed as an obligation. In a solemn ceremony witnessed by thousands and attended by chiefs of state and government from several countries and other government representatives, Lusinchi was sworn in as Venezuela's 28th president, the 6th democratically elected since the fall of the dictatorship of Marcos Perez Jimenez in 1958.

The new Venezuelan president reiterated his government's intention to do everything possible to help in the consolidation of Latin America in the face of the great political and economic problems of the present world.

Lusinchi also committed his government to combat unemployment and the economic recession affecting Venezuela, and to pay in full the nation's external debt, estimated at $35 billion. We shall do this, he noted, without accepting conditions of payment that might curb Venezuela's reasonable progress and threaten the already weakened resistance of its inhabitants.

During the presidential campaign that led him to a smashing electoral victory on 4 December, Lusinchi recalled that despite the huge revenues produced by oil, over two-thirds of the 16 million Venezuelans still live in the lowest poverty levels and that some 700,000 -- one-fifth of the active labor force -- are unemployed.

MEXICO'S DE LA MADRID QUOTED ON C.A. ISSUE

FL071510 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid has stressed that peace initiatives for Central America have not yet eliminated the threat of war. The Mexican president made this statement at an official reception to honor Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, who is visiting that nation.

In an obvious reference to the Reagan administration's policy for Central America, De la Madrid said: There are still those who think that security in the area is linked to a military presence and an increase in aggressive and destabilizing actions. We reiterate our call to all states with interests in the area to avoid actions that are contrary to our peace efforts and to take steps to help, without any ambiguities, the negotiating process, De la Madrid emphasized in another part of his speech.

Meanwhile, Palme mentioned his country's firm support for the peace efforts of the Contadora Group and stressed that the tragic situation in Central America is the result of the region's social and economic situation.

HAITIAN CANDIDATE THREATENED BY POLICE, ARMY

PA050024 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Armed members of the Haitian police and Army are seeking by all means to force the withdrawal of (Sergie Vollie), the only independent candidate in the electoral campaign, who has already received threats against his life.

(Vollie's) offices in Haiti have been ransacked, his campaign posters have been destroyed, his collaborators have been arrested, and his followers have been threatened by uniformed agents of Jean-Claude Duvalier's regime.

The call for legislative assembly elections in Haiti, scheduled for 12 February, has been encouraged by the U.S. Government in an attempt to simulate a democracy in that Caribbean country.

SURINAME TO RECEIVE LOANS FROM U.S., EEC

PA071932 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] The United States will grant Suriname a loan in the amount of $130,000, according to a dispatch from the SURINAMESE NEWS AGENCY. Suriname will receive $50,000 in this fiscal year, and the rest in fiscal 1985. The source reiterates that the EEC recently granted Suriname a loan of $6,795,580 to be used for developing the rice industry. The conditions upon which these agreements are based have not been revealed.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO UN -- The Council of State has appointed Comrade Carlos Lechuga as Cuba's permanent representative and ambassador to the UN office in Europe with headquarters in Switzerland. Carlos Lechuga was Cuba's ambassador to Portugal. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Feb 84 FL]

NEW SUGARCANE HARVESTERS ARRIVE -- The Soviet Union has started sending new sugarcane harvesters to Cuba. The nine harvesters, which have 200-horsepower engines, were built at the (Harko) factory in the Ukraine and will help our country increase its sugar yields. Cuban mechanics are being trained in the repair and maintenance of these harvesters. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 4 Feb 84 FL]

CARICOM MINISTERS REACH AGREEMENT ON WISCO

FL030055 Bridgetown CANA in English 0013 GMT 3 Feb 84

[By Ernie Seon]

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Feb 2 [CANA] -- Caricom ministers responsible for transportation meeting here have reached agreement on the criteria to permit their West Indies Shipping Corporation (WISCO) to serve the region on an assured basis during 1984. Caribbean Community Secretary General Roderick Rainford told a news conference here that the report on the progress of WISCO was accepted by the ministers, who noted an improving trend in the company's operations.

The company, owned by Caricom governments, serves regional territories and also links Miami in the United States with Jamaica, Barbados, and Trinidad and Tobago as well as Dominica, St Lucia, and Antigua.

Rainford said WISCO still required a certain level of subventions by its owners, but added this was steadying off and showing a tendency to decline.

The meeting, held under the chairmanship of Guyana's Transport Minister Seeram Prashad, approved WISCO's annual report and accounts for 1982 and the corporation's estimates of revenue and expenditure for 1983. WISCO also gained approval for its 1984 budget and its five-year development programme.

Rainford said: "The report was accepted as the ministers saw an improving trend in WISCO's operations. WISCO still requires a certain level of subventions but the level is showing a tendency to decline, except when it recently had to go through a number of difficult circumstances."

The ministers, he said, also discussed the possibility of reintroducing a passenger service on WISCO. "This was first mandated by the heads of government for study, and both WISCO and the Caricom Secretariat have been carrying out an interim feasibility [study]", he said. He told reporters this has now been completed, but will be further developed on a wider basis. The ministers discussed the progress on this and were informed that the necessary technical studies and examination will be completed by the next meeting of the Caricom heads (July 1984) to enable a decision to be taken.

Rainford went on: "The ministers decided that every effort should be made to encourage the establishment of national shipping councils in Caricom countries where they do not exist," to facilitate the negotiations of better freight rates. "They said that all the necessary bilateral, multi-lateral, and technical assistance must be mobilised towards having them properly established," he said.

The meeting also reviewed the work of the high-level committee on the nationalisation of the operation of regional and national shipping lines. This was a commitment established by the heads of government at their meeting in Port-of-Spain in 1983, chaired by Barbados. At the meeting, the opportunity was taken to have the ministers monitor the work and status of the committee.

In the area of air transportation, Rainford said the ministers noted the progress of the island-hopping airline they own -- LIAT -- and drew up resolutions of a policy nature concerning investment plans for the near and medium term, and efforts being mobilised to raise the necessary finance to enable the company to implement its investment programme. The ministers will meet again in November, Rainford said.

BARBADOS

OPPOSITION LEADER SAYS CARICOM NEEDS CHANGE

FL031437 Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 26 Jan 84 p 1

[Article by Jewel Brathwaite]

[Text] Opposition Leader Errol Barrow has called for more dialogue among regional political leaders to help prop up the 11-year-old Caribbean Community and Common Market [Caricom).

In addition, he has called for a change in outlook of the Georgetown-based Caricom Secretariat.

Barrow, a former Prime Minister and architect of the regional integration movement, told a luncheon of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry that there should at least be two Caricom Heads of Government summits annually.

He spoke on the topic of the future of Caricom, the 12-nation regional integration movement.

Barrow lamented the fact there were only two such summits between 1973 and the meeting held in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, in 1982, comparing these with 13 held between 1963 and 1973 during the run up to the Caribbean Free Trade Area (CARIFTA), and its successor, Caricom.

He stated the Ocho Rios meeting was spent discussing President Reagan's Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI).

Barrow said: "We have to know what we stand for. Our commitment to Caricom is a commitment to the growth of intra-regional trade, and the creation of jobs. Caricom is not going to have a future at all unless there is a political will."

He said that the decision-making process resided with the heads of government.

He gave a background leading up to the formation of CARIFTA, stating that trade grew from $70 million in 1968 to $500 million in 1974.

Barrow said there appeared to be a breakdown in communication between the Secretariat and manufacturers, Chambers of Commerce, and the public.

He recalled the important roles played by former Caricom Secretaries-General William Demas and Alistair McIntyre, and noted that while he was not calling for changes in personalities, there needed to be a change in outlook at the Secretariat.

Calling himself an "economic integrationst," Mr Barrow said he did not think Caricom can be dismantled, "but we must make it more successful."

DAILY QUESTIONS REASON FOR U.S. MEDICAL SCHOOL

FL072040 Bridgetown CANA in English 1926 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 7 (CANA) -- The BARBADOS ADVOCATE newspaper today questioned why the Barbados Government was rushing to accommodate a U.S.-owned offshore medical school here, though fully aware that there was as yet no legislation to govern such an operation.

It was the latest editorial comment from the paper on a continuing controversy here over the school's recent importation of 15 dead bodies for dissection by students, in the face of an earlier government declaration that no cadavers for this purpose were to be allowed in until Parliament had passed the necessary legislation.

Noting a weekend statement by Acting Health Minister Lionel Craig that legislation to deal with the problem was soon to be brought to Parliament, THE ADVOCATE declared: "What Mr Craig has not told us is why, in the face of realising that the country needs the pertinent legislation, we are prepared to rush along with having the offshore school here and allowing it, in the absence of pertinent laws, to function as if we had such laws....No attempt to side step this presents the government in a good light."

"Furthermore," THE ADVOCATE said, "the Ministry of Health has still not been able to explain how it could give a directive to the offshore school not to bring in any cadavers into Barbados until the appropriate legislation is passed to allow the dissection of bodies, and then later attempts to treat the issue as if it is merely a question of bringing dead bodies into the country....Again we ask why the haste."

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR FROM SOUTH KOREA -- Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 5 (CANA) -- South Korea's first resident ambassador to Barbados, Sun Sup Chang, arrives here tomorrow to take up his appointment, it was announced. A release from the South Korean Embassy here said Chang would also be accredited to Trinidad and Tobago and member states of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). Chang has just completed a tour of duty in Saudi Arabia. He is married and has two children. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1804 GMT 6 Feb 84 FL]

GRENADA

BRATHWAITE DELIVERS INDEPENDENCE DAY SPEECH

Stresses Productivity, Peace

FL071755 ridgetown CANA in English 1653 GMT 7 Feb 84

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Feb 7 (CANA) -- Grenada's interim government says it is doing its part to ensure the success of the nation but increased productivity by nationals is essential to back up the administration's efforts to transform the island into "an oasis of freedom, justice, and equality."

"Let us not wallow in the valley of despair nor engage in the luxury of cooling off or take the tranquilising drug of gradualism," Advisory Council Chairman Nicholas Brathwaite said last night. "All of us need to work emphatically to transform our nation into an oasis of freedom, justice, and equality."

Brathwaite was speaking in a 20-minute message broadcast on state-owned Radio Grenada to mark Grenada's 10th anniversary of independence today. "The interim government accepts the principle that we should strive to have a better distribution of wealth...but if productivity is not increased, better distribution would simply mean a society of poor people," the chairman said.

The nine-member council was set up by Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon in the aftermath of last October's U.S.-led invasion that ousted a military junta that had overthrown and assassinated leftist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

Brathwaite said the authorities would not yield to pressure to release close to 40 persons, including ex-Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard, detained in connection with the death of Bishop, three cabinet ministers, and several others.

He said some persons, now pressing for the release of the detainees, had shown no interest in the plight of political prisoners under the Bishop government. "The interim government has no quarrel with them but warns them that there is a difference between freedom and licence," Brathwaite said.

The authorities say they are investigating the role in the coup of the detainees, mainly former military and political leaders.

Brathwaite said the interim government was committed to restoring democracy in Grenada as well as fundamental rights and freedoms to citizens. "We are equally dedicated not to allow the few to disturb the peace which we now enjoy," he said. "Grenada is on a new path and it is the responsibility of all of us to make sure that we maintain a direct course which would remove bitterness and hatred from this beautiful land," Brathwaite said.

He added: "In our 11th year of independence, let us make maximum use of the new atmosphere by displaying the virtues of patience, prudence, tolerance, and production. Basic to the development of these virtues is the need to have a greater confidence in ourselves, better appreciation of things local, and to display a more positive attitude to work."

Announces Lower Prices

FL071840 Bridgetown CANA in English 1609 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Feb 7 (CANA) -- Grenada's interim government last night announced price cuts on rice, sugar, milk, and cement as "an independence gift" to the nation. Advisory Council Chairman Nicholas Brathwaite said in a 20-minute independence anniversary message on state-owned Radio Grenada that the decision followed a review of the pricing policy of the Marketing and National Importing Board (MNIB). The agency, set up by the ousted People's Revolutionary Government (PRG), is responsible for importing the four items into Grenada, which is today celebrating 10 years of independence from Britain.

The price of full cream milk has dropped to 2.50 dollars (1 EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) per pound from 2.95 dollars -- a reduction of 45 cents. The cost of white sugar is now 82 cents per pound -- a drop of 13 cents from the previous price of 95 cents. The new price for brown sugar is 56 cents per pound, from 78 cents, while rice retails at 80 cents, from 85 cents. Brathwaite said the price cuts would bring some relief to consumers.

In the case of cement, Brathwaite announced that a 94-pound bag would now be retailed at 12.74 dollars in the city, down from the former price of 16.40 dollars. In the country districts, however, the price will be 14 dollars, from 17.65 dollars. The price of a 110-pound bag of cement slides down to 14.80 dollars from 18.20 dollars for city buyers. The new price in the country areas is 16.05 dollars, from 19.10 dollars.

The interim government, in office for almost three months, announced a five percent reduction in the stamp duty on imports two weeks ago in what it said was a move to slash Grenada's cost of living. Stamp duty is now 15 percent. It also said at the time that it was setting up a body whose task will be to examine the markups on a number of consumer items sold here. The nine-member caretaker administration was set up in the aftermath of last October's U.S.-led invasion. It will remain in office until a new government is elected in general elections planned for later this year.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT END OF TALKS WITH DONORS

FL071557 Bridgetown CANA in English 1455 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 7 (CANA) -- Following is a communique issued here last night following discussions between a Grenada Government delegation and a group of Western donor governments and agencies on economic assistance for the island.

"At a meeting of multilateral and bilateral aid donors held at the headquarters of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) today, the interim administration of Grenada outlined their plans for economic and social development based upon an economic memorandum prepared by that government in collaboration with the CDB.

"Dr Allan Kirton, deputy chairman of the Advisory Council of Grenada, with responsibility for finance, planning, and trade, thanked the donor community for the assistance they had already provided to Grenada and for their sympathetic understanding of their future needs. He emphasised that the people of Grenada recognized that assistance from friendly nations and institutions was only intended to supplement Grenada's national efforts, but he asked for generous assistance to form the basis for some such partnership.

"The meeting discussed the short- and medium-term objectives of the Grenada administration which included efforts to reduce unemployment, to generate economic growth, and to increase public sector savings and foreign exchange earnings.

"Donor representatives congratulated the Grenada Administration and the CDB, especially the president, Mr William Demas, Mr Marius St Rose, the director of the Economics and Programming Department, and Mr Wallace Joefield-Napier of the same department, who provided economic advice on the preparation of a forward-looking set of policies and programmes in a very detailed and well-researched presentation.

"Delegates to the meeting did not underestimate the difficulties facing the Grenada Administration in the short term and the problem in charting the way to the longer term development objectives in a period requiring decisions on some policy changes.

"Donors agreed with the need for technical assistance to fill some of the areas of management and professional expertise essential to the smooth implementation of the development objectives.

"Donors generally were sympathetic to the proposed plan for development and to the major priorities identified by the Grenada Administration and renewed their undertaking to use present financing resources and to devote any new funds which might be available to assist the administration to meet its objectives.

"The discussions will continue next week in Washington at the meeting of the Caribbean Group for Cooperation in Economic Development." (end of text)

GREAT BRITAIN LENDS 1 MILLION POUNDS STERLING

FL071900 Bridgetown CANA in English 1742 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] London, Feb 7 (CANA-REUTER) -- Britain will give a new interest-free loan of one million sterling (1.41 million dollars) to Grenada, Timothy Raison, minister for overseas development, said today. The loan will be repayable over 25 years with a seven-year grace period. Britain gave its former Caribbean colony a 750,000 sterling (1.1 million dollar) grant immediately after last October's American-led invasion of the island.

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

POLITICAL LEADERS COMMENT ON ELECTORAL PROSPECTS

FL032152 Bridgetown CANA in English 1910 GMT 3 Feb 84

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] Kingston, St Vincent, Feb 3 (CANA) -- Bolstered by what it sees as its "prudent management" of the economy over the past decade and the absence of any strong alternative, Prime Minister Milton Cato's St Vincent Labour Party (SVLP) confidently looks forward to winning another five-year term in general elections due within a year's time. "We feel we deserve the confidence of the people of St Vincent and the Grenadines, and they will give the majority confidence by vote to us in the general election when it comes," says Deputy Prime Minister Hudson Tannis.

The multiplicity of opposition groups for a small nation -- five in all to a population of 120,000 -- and the dim hope of the parties getting together to work out some kind of electoral accommodation also puts Labour at an advantage. "If there is a combination of all opposition forces against the government, the government as a consequence will have to work harder," Tannis, the SVLP deputy political leader, told CANA in an interview here. "But no matter the combined force, they will discover as they have (already) that the St Vincent Labour Party is a formidable force to deal with." A Labour victory at the poll, constitutionally due at the latest by March 1985, will give the party its third successive five-year-term under Cato's leadership. At its last election outing in December 1979, two months after it had led St Vincent and the Grenadines into political independence from Britain, Labour trounced its rivals, picking up 11 of the 13 seats in the House of Assembly.

Parliamentary opposition leader James Mitchell, whose New Democratic Party (NDP) won the two other seats, thinks Cato, now 68, will settle for elections this year in a move that could see Vincentians going to the polls as early as April. "I think they want to call an early election and I believe it can come any time from April on. Any time they are ready, we are ready for them," the ex-premier told CANA. Mitchell feels his party, the country's second largest after Labour, is in with a good chance of pulling off a victory. The NDP's biggest worry, he says, is likelihood of bribery and the "indecent haste" with which the government is now conducting its enumeration programme. Mitchell, parliamentarian for the Grenadines, contends that proper enumeration of voters is essential if there is to be a fair election. The government initially had set three weeks ending January 31 for the enumeration exercise but, following opposition pressure, announced an extension this week until February 21. Voters at the next general elections here will for the first time have an identification card to enable them to cast their ballots. The voter registration currently underway is in line with the requirements of the new (1982) Representation of the People Act.

Leaders of two other opposition parties say Labour is assured of victory unless the myriad groups can sit down and work out some kind of alliance. "The opposition is really its own enemy," says lawyer Dr Ralph Gonsalvez, leader of the one-year-old Movement for National Unity (MNU). "It will be very difficult for any opposition party running alone to beat Labour Party, and I don't see opposition unity taking place," he told CANA. "It makes no sense in our view having so many opposition parties fighting against each other for the right to replace the Labour Party government, says Renwick Rose, general secretary of the Leftist United People's Movement (UPM). "...There is no single party in opposition which can provide an alternative, and we hope that the parties can sit down and discuss a common alternative to the Labour Party."

The MNU, a moderate leftist offshot formed after Gonsalves severed relations with the more radical UPM, has been pushing the achieve some measure of opposition unity in the hope of producing "a credible alternative" to the Cato government. Gonsalves says the effort was futile and the party now is concentrating on building its organisation and getting ready to fight the forthcoming election on its own if need be. Gonsalves, an ex-university political science lecturer, feels the best combination for ousting Cato is an alliance involving the MNU and the NDP. The NDP apparently isn't disposed to the idea at all. It is instead looking at the St Vincent and the Grenadines National Movement (SNM), led by medical Doctor Gideon Cordice, for some kind of alliance.

Prior to last October's U.S.-led military intervention in Grenada, the UPM and the NDP were making some headway towards arriving at an electoral accommodation. In fact, political observers here feel the UPM's decision not to field a candidate against the NDP's in last September's central leeward by-election, narrowly won by the Labour Party, in some way contributed to the NDP's good showing. It lost the seat by a mere 65 votes. The MNU also did not put a candidate in the by-election in the constituency considered to be a Labour Party stronghold. Mitchell said the UPM's critical stand on the Grenada intervention, backed all the way by the NDP, brought an abrupt end to the cooperation. "Because of their stand, we are unable to continue this cooperation," the opposition leader said. The UPM is not interested in any arrangement with any of the other groups because "they do not represent any significant force in electoral terms."

The fifth opposition group is the People's Democratic Party (PDP) led by businessman Randolph Russell. Russell won his seat on a Labour Party ticket in 1979 but no split about two years later.

Apart from the UPM, which has stuck to the campaign trail since the last general election, the other parties have not yet taken their electioneering to the public platforms. But leaders say they are hard at work getting their programmes organised, planning strategy, and identifying candidates.

Mitchell says the NDP will run candidates in all 13 constituencies, confident of a good showing because he contends the NDP has increased its support among voters since 1979 when it picked up 28 per cent of votes cast. UPM leader Oscar Allen says his party will field "as many candidates as possible" to keep them in contention for state power, although he sees the chances of victory as "real but slim." Gonsalves isn't looking for a MNU win at its first electoral outing, but he confides they can run candidates in nine constituencies and at least save their deposits. "In some of the constituencies, the chances are even good for winning," he said.

Tannis says the Labour Party sees emerging as the main issue in the upcoming campaign the state of the economy, especially unemployment, officially put at 25 per cent. The problems in the Arrowroot Industry, which is running a six million dollar (one EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) overdraft because its starch has become uncompetitive, will be another main talking point, the deputy prime minister added.

Opposition leaders figure their attack on the government will focus on what they contend has been the administration's "mismanagement" of the economy, evident they say in an unemployment level as high as 50 per cent, and declines in agriculture and tourism, the chief hard currency earners.

The government argues that the declines in agriculture and tourism were influenced by external factors, namely the recession in the western countries which supply St Vincent with tourists and the sliding value of the British pound, the currency in which local banana exports are paid for. Bananas constitute St Vincent and the Grenadines' main hard currency earner. The bulk of exports go to the United Kingdom. Despite these setbacks, the government says the industrial sector has continued to expand and the country was able to achieve positive economic growth over the past three years, even though there was a decline in 1982. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased by 12 per cent in 1981 but was down to 2.4 per cent in 1982 at the height of the recession, according to official figures. Last year, real economic growth was four per cent and, according to Tannis, government's target for 1984 is not less than six per cent, with the industrial sector leading the expansion.

Prime Minister Cato, who shuns meeting the press, said in his 1983-84 budget last July that the government's medium-and long-term objectives for national development may in the promotion of export-oriented and import-substituting employment generation activities through modernising agriculture and expanding tourism and industry. Going hand in hand with the plan, he added, was the provision of necessary infrastructure. Consistent with these priorities, the government has drawn up a programme calling for net investments of 192.4 million E.C. dollars over the next four years. The government has attracted a number of light industries through incentives such as tax holidays under its industrialisation programme. According to Prime Minister Cato, the industrial sector has been responsible for the creation of some 3,000 new jobs since 1977 -- a figure that represents seven per cent of the Vincentian labour force. More companies are expected to open during this year and provide additional jobs, Tannis said. Besides industry, the Cato government is banking on tourism expansion to bring down unemployment. "There is no sector in any economy as labour intensive as tourism," remarked Tannis.

The principal bottleneck to the development of this industry here is the small Arnos Vale Airport, which can accomodate only landings by small aircraft. The largest commercial plane using Arnos Vale now is the LIAT 48-seater Avro-748, St Vincents' main airlink. "To improve tourism, we must improve Arnos Vale, so that it will be able to accept medium range jets like the Boeing 737 and the DC-9," said Tannis, who holds the tourism portfolio. "We, however, don't want an international airport," he added, because the country cannot afford it right now. The government has been holding talks with "several friendly countries" on financing for the airport expansion project, but it has not got the response it was expecting, Tannis said.

In Agriculture, he said, the Labour Party government would press on with a diversification programme to reduce dependence on bananas for the bulk of foreign exchange earnings, and continue efforts to identify new markets for traditional crops. "Agriculture will continue for a long time to be the mainstay of the economy," Tannis said.

The opposition's projected economic development programmes centre on the three priority sectors, but there is a different approach. Opposition leader Mitchell, a trained agronomist and hotelier, said what's needed to get tourism going is a proper development plan for the industry. Lack of expansion is mainly due to the "haphazard" approach by the government, he felt. Mitchell said the NDP government would remove a three per cent gross turnover tax paid by business and which the party considers an obstacle to attracting investment. Other aspects of the opposition programme include tax revision, a plan to achieve greater efficiency in the public sector, and the development of agro-industry utilising local produce.

PARTIES COMMENT ON ECONOMY, 1984 BUDGET

FL071920 Bridgetown CANA in English 1817 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 7 (CANA) -- The three political parties in Guyana's National Assembly (parliament) have voiced concern about the parlous state of the country's economy.

The ruling People's National Congress (PNC), the main opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP), and the United Force agreed yesterday -- the first day of the general debate on the 1984 budgetary proposals -- that more needed to be done to pull the economy out of trouble.

The 1984 budgetary proposals, which provide for expenditures amounting to 1.5 billion dollars (1 Guy dollar; 27 cents U.S.), were presented to the Assembly on January 30 by Finance and Economic Planning Minister Carl Greenridge, who said the economy had performed badly last year.

Members of the PNC, which has 57 seats in parliament, pledged to undertake several programmes to increase production in agriculture, mining, manufacturing, forestry, and fishing.

Harry Persaud Nokta, a member of the PPP, described the budget as a "bloody instrument which will bleed the Guyanese people."

Persaud said that, in 1983, the consolidated fund (the fund in which all the country's earnings are placed) was overdrawn by 2.8 billion (Guy) dollars. This figure is likely to be increased to 3.1 billion (Guy) dollars this year, he said. However, the PPP pledged its support for the government in its efforts to reschedule the country's external commercial payment arrears, which were estimated at 32 million dollars (U.S.) last year.

Persaud warned that rescheduling must be part of a workable economic strategy since it "cannot work in isolation." The opposition parliamentarian also accused the government of not living up to its pledge to implement a system of public accountability. But PNC parliamentarian Oscar Clarke said a new system of performance contract in the public corporation was one way of ensuring accountability.

Last year, the Guyana Government had begun making arrangements to link the remunerations of managers of public corporations to the performance of those agencies.

The government says it plans to increase its emphasis on other sectors of the national economy. Plans are being implemented to reactivate the country's fishmeal plant so that the product can be used in the production of stockfeed.

Government officials say efforts will be made to increase local milk production.

According to Vice President for Production Desmond Hoyte, 60 million dollars (U.S.) have been set aside for agriculture, six million (U.S.) for forestry, ten million for fishing, 13 million for mining, and eight for manufacturing.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

TROOP DEPLOYMENT PROMPTED BY RUMORS ABOUT HAITI

PA071443 Paris AFP in Spanish 1422 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Santo Domingo, 7 Feb (AFP) -- Dominican troops were deployed along the border with Haiti because of rumors that circulated yesterday about an alleged domestic political conflict there, Lieutenant General Ramiro Matos Gonzalez, secretary of state for the Armed Forces, confirmed officially last night.

However, the border situation has now returned "to normal," the military leader said, after confirming that the rumors about the unrest in Haiti were not true.

According to military sources, the deployment of troops along the border and urgent meetings of the high military commands, both of which took place yesterday, were prompted by the intense military "movement" observed on the Haitian side of the border. The sources suggested that the unusual activity may "possibly" involve the legislative elections that are scheduled to take place in Haiti this coming Sunday.

Moliere Duplan, Haitian ambassador to Santo Domingo, who met with the Dominican prime minister, said that the situation in Haiti "is completely normal" and that the rumors about conflicts "were only street rumors."

SURINAME

BUSINESS SECTOR FILLS REMAINING CABINET POSTS

PA080026 Hilversum International Service in Spanish 2330 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] The Suriname business sector has found two candidates to hold two ministerial portfolios in the transitional cabinet of Prime Minister Wim Udenhout.

Of the nine cabinet posts, the Ministries of Finance and Social Health had been vacant because the business sector could not find candidates to occupy them. The other ministers were appointed by the military regime and the country's labor movement.

The two new ministers will assume their duties next Thursday.